

VOLUME TWENTY-NINE / NUMBER ONE
FALL 2015 ** ZANESVILLE, OHIO

HOW DIRECTORS ARE CHOSEN AND REPLACED

The Summer 2015 *Banner* exposed the fact that the members of the Christian Science Board of Directors are really civil fiduciaries rather than ecclesiastical members of a religious hierarchy. They are to act as trustees for the best interests of the real (beneficial) owners of The Mother Church -- the members.

Conclusive proof of this continues to emerge as the attorneys 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" discover documents held by the 6th Circuit Court, Probate Division, in the state of New Hampshire. Mary Baker Eddy filed all of her Deeds of Trust and her Last Will and Testament in her native state of New Hampshire, and it is there that they continue to be administered to this day.

While an initial action of appointment or resignation originates with the members of the Christian Science Board of Directors, a document received and processed by the Probate Court on July 1, 2014, titled "Resignation of Fiduciary", Michael Pabst (member of the Christian Science Board of Directors) "...requests that his/her resignation be accepted and that some suitable person be appointed in his/her place. I certify that on this date [11-21-2013] I provided this document(s) to the parties who have filed an appearance for this case or who are otherwise interested parties by Email." In turn, the Judge of Probate, Michael R. Feeney, checked (marked) "Resignation is accepted." He had the option to check "Resignation is declined." The judge's order was dated July 29, 2014.

It should be noted that there was a four week period between receipt of the resignation request and the final order of the judge. This was a period when interested parties could approach the judge with information, *pro* or *con* regarding the requested action. Needless to say, the interested parties -- the members of The Mother Church -- are never notified, and therefore, cannot offer comments or evidence that might influence the decision of the judge.

No doubt more documents of interest will be uncovered in the court's files that will be of vital interest to church members. *The Banner* will provide updates.

MORE CONFLICT BETWEEN FIDUCIARY AND HIERARCHICAL CLAIMS

An August 21, 2015, letter from the attorneys for the unnamed members of The Mother Church to the Directors' attorney stated: "The Mother Church is an association of individuals who are members of the Boston congregation known as The First Church of Christ, Scientist. The Board, on the other hand, was formed as a distinct corporate body under the laws of Massachusetts. The Board also serves as the Trustees of the Trusts formed under Deeds of Trust and the Will of Mary Baker G. Eddy ("Mrs. Eddy")... We must assume, therefore that you also act as counsel for the Trustees. The Mother Church and its members, of course, including our clients, are the beneficiaries of those Trusts. An attorney cannot represent simultaneously the interests of the trustees and the beneficiaries of a trust... Your representation of the Board/Trustees and The Mother Church is a conflict of interest that is not capable of being waived by the board, generally, or in perpetuity...

"Your position that the Church Manual does not require the Board to disclose details of the finances of The Mother Church is in direct conflict with the beneficial interests of The Mother Church, its members and the public, in the disclosure of such details. No beneficial interest is possibly served by secrecy concerning the Board's fiduciary oversight of Trust assets.

"Similarly, your position that the Board is immune absolutely from secular review of its judgments in the expenditure of funds held in trust for The Mother church conflicts with the beneficial interests of The Mother Church, its members, and the public in maintaining the Board's fiduciary accountability... Furthermore, your position that the religion clauses of the United States and Massachusetts Constitutions immunize the Board from secular oversight would preclude even the Attorney General from exercising oversight...

"Addressing the substance of your letter, our clients accepted three of the Board's four conditions of disclosure. The Fourth -- that the disclosed information 'cannot be used in any civil investigation, proceeding or adjudication action' -- asks our clients to agree to breach the dictates of the Church Manual (discussed below), not just seeking to hold them to confidentiality, but to secrecy concerning the financial affairs of the Board/Trustees and The Mother Church. Insistence on

secrecy is inimical to the role of a fiduciary, whose ordinary and necessary duty is to fully disclose and account for its actions...

"The Board, it seems, wants beneficiaries (The Mother Church, its members and public) to accept the Board's unverified oral report of three gross sums at the annual meeting as a sufficient discharge of their fiduciary duty to account. The mandate of a report is set forth in Article XXIV [of The Church Manual]:

It shall be the duty of the Christian Science Board of Directors to have the books of the Church Treasurer audited semi-annually, and 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...

"When our clients read these provisions, they are reminded of Mrs. Eddy's own words of assurance to members and instruction to the Board:

When you call on the members of the Christian Science Board of Directors to itemize or audit the accounts, these will be found already itemized. [Mis. 131:28-30] ...

"The *Weaver* [v. *Wood*] court recognized that even members of a public charity could have standing in a proper case. *Id.* ("We have on occasion recognized a private plaintiff's standing to make claims against a public charity, but only where the plaintiff asserts 'interests in such organizations which are distinct from those of the general public.'")... Moreover, the opinion in *Weaver* refers only to the 1892 and 1898 Deeds of Trust, without mentioning the later Deeds that expressly reference the Bylaws of the Church Manual. Nor did the court address the significance of the express declaration in Article XXIV, paragraph 2, that the members are regarded as the beneficial owners of the buildings and land on Massachusetts Avenue in Boston, or the fact that members pay an annual *per capita* tax to the Mother Church...

"At this point, our clients stand as members seeking information for their own internal investigation. They have agreed to maintain confidentiality and not to use the information to assert any claims outside The Mother Church, without first obtaining a court order after notice and opportunity for the Board of The Mother Church to object. If that is not acceptable and the Board cannot propose other conditions, short of secrecy, to allow meaningful access to and use of the requested information, it will render the internal process meaningless and increase the likelihood that our clients resort to other internal or external means to obtain compliance with the fundamental fiduciary duty to account."

DAVIDSON ASSOCIATION

On January 4, 2002, longtime Christian Science Teacher, Elaine Natale Davidson, sent a 144-page document titled *Matters of Conscience* with accompanying documentation to the Christian Science Board of Directors which outlined serious violations of the *Church Manual* committed by the board "over the past two decades" (p. 137). In conformity with the Matthew Code (*Church Manual*, p. 51), it was sent privately for the board's consideration.

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.

Needless to say, Mrs. Davidson's documentation was not well received by the Directors, and subsequently, -- and in strict conformity with the Matthew Code, -- *Matters of Conscience* was sent to branch churches, Readers, and other interested church members. On November 18, 2002, Mrs. Davidson was informed that her teacher and practitioner listing was being removed from *The Christian Science Journal*. She 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*. Word of Mrs. Davidson's passing was received in November of 2014. (See Winter 2015 *Banner*)

In the summer of 2015, the Association of Pupils of Elaine Natale Davidson requested that it be reinstated as a recognized association by the Christian Science Board of Directors. The board refused the request even though there is no provision in the *Church Manual* which would preclude them from mercifully granting this just petition. Any member of the association wishing to be listed as a practitioner in *The Christian Science Journal* must be retaught. All the association members find themselves in a state of limbo, and various states of exclusion, or non-acceptance in the field.

Interestingly, the signer of the board's rejection letter to the association had been best man at Elaine Natale Davidson's wedding. After she began to express dismay

and concern about actions emanating from Boston, he distanced himself from her. When Mrs. Davidson's husband was a patient at the Benevolent Association in Boston, she came out of his room and passed the best man in the hallway. He walked right by her as if he had never seen her before in his life.

SEVEN MORE CHURCH CLOSINGS

A comparison of the June and September 2015 issues of *The Christian Science Journal* reveals that the following churches have closed: Menifee, California; Yreka, California; Washington (3rd), D.C.; Longmeadow-Springfield, Massachusetts; Wayne, Michigan; Branson-Hollister, Missouri; and Columbus (1st), Ohio. First Church, Columbus, Ohio, actually disappeared from the listing in the May 2015 *Journal*, but was overlooked in the previous list. Since the count began in February 1987, 979 churches have closed and 81 have opened.

UNPUBLISHED ARTICLE

An article titled: "Monitor Woes: Trouble at the Christian Science Church" by Stephen J. Simurda was written for *Boston* magazine in 1991. The article was never published.

It was said that the article was "killed" two weeks after the Christian Science Church bought the building the magazine used as its headquarters. Twenty-four years later, no independent confirmation of this could be verified.

The following are excerpts from this article: "It was a heady weekend for the hierarchy of the Church of Christ, Scientist. Church leaders and their spouses traveled from Boston to Washington D.C. last spring for the annual Gridiron Club dinner, which brings together the capital's media and power elite for an evening of good-natured lampooning. And up at the head table, guffawing right next to President Bush, was Harvey W. Wood, an affable fellow Texan and chairman of the church's board of directors. Wood's preferred seating was arranged by a longtime columnist for *The Christian Science Monitor* who was serving a stint as president of the Gridiron Club...

"On the following night, the church hierarchy were joined by a few prominent Christian Scientists and journalists for a dinner that few will likely forget... The secret service men were on duty because among the Christian Scientists on hand to chow down were William Webster and Stansfield Turner, the past two directors of the Central Intelligence Agency...

"But as special as the night was, it stood in sharp contrast to the church's announcement just a month later to withdraw \$25 million from its employee pension fund. Church leaders had already taken \$15 million out of the fund in 1989...

"Perhaps most interesting was the fact that just three

days after the *Trader Vic's* dinner, the church's top broadcasting executive, John H. Hoagland Jr., was in New Orleans at a cable industry trade show looking for money...

"In fact, an analysis of the church's financial condition indicates that it has spent roughly \$500 million in its effort to create an ambitious media network whose espoused goal is to 'promote spiritual values, thereby advancing the brotherhood of man.'...

"The church is showing clear signs of financial distress. Without the addition of \$25 million from the employee pension fund last year, the church was likely to have run out of available funds, according to documents corroborated by informed sources...

"Many people have been fired from their jobs at the church with no reason given, and others have been warned about speaking out against the church's media activities. As a result several people interviewed for this article asked that their name not be used...

"The church's deficit from media operations last year approached \$100 million, according to informed sources. When the expansion began, Hoagland frequently said the Monitor's annual deficit of between \$15 and \$20 million was untenable...

"In all my years working with them, they always overspent their budgets and never achieved their projections,' says one business person with a longtime association to the church's publishing society. 'When their business plans became clearly inoperable, they (publishing society executives) simply created new business plans. Now the Board of Directors are entrusting the financial future of the church into their hands. It is understandable how church members are no longer supporting the organization.'...

"But if Wood makes the ultimate decisions, the ideas often come from Hoagland, a courtly Yale graduate who cut his teeth working as a CIA agent for a dozen years in the 1950s and 60s...

"Netty Douglass also came to her job running the publishing society with no outside media experience. First hired to an entry-level position at the Monitor, she has risen through a combination of hard work, good fortune and ruthlessness, according to those who know her. 'She has drummed all of her peers out of the organization,' says one former colleague. Known to work long days and get things done, she is described as taking a no-holds-barred attitude to her work that can leave bodies in her wake and often increase the cost of projects...

"Don Bowersock [church treasurer] is the loyal numbers cruncher in all of this. He continually reassures members that the church is on firm financial footing, even while barnstorming the country in an unsuccessful effort to raise \$38 million to help offset

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JUDICIAL BRANCH**
<http://www.courts.state.nh.us>

Court Name: 6th Circuit - Probate Division - Concord
Case Name: Trust u/w/o Mary Baker Eddy - Clause 8
Case Number: 317-1910-TU-001
(if known)

RESIGNATION OF FIDUCIARY

the costs of media expansion... The treasurer raised more than a few eyebrows in 1987 when he married his secretary just a few months after his wife's suicide...

"A number of consultants worked on the development of World Monitor as well, including Bob Klein of Los Angeles. Klein said he found Hoagland, Douglas and others eager to begin a daily television show, but understanding little about the market... It soon became apparent that plans for a nightly news show were moving ahead quickly regardless of his advice... Before long, Klein says he was eased out of the picture...

"Looking back at the initial development of the church's television plans, [Richard] O'Regan [involved in the development of World Monitor] says he places the responsibility for the many bad decisions he saw squarely with Hoagland and Douglass. 'They were both naive and vicious toward the people who told them things they didn't want to hear,' he says. That viciousness has continued unabated, according to several Christian Scientists, and served to create an atmosphere of intimidation and retribution that many fear may do permanent damage to the church...

Allan and Helen Taini were excommunicated from the church last year after sending letters to fellow

Christian Scientists seeking support for possible legal action to require the church to tell members exactly how much the media expansion is costing...

"Nancy Evans Houston, a Christian Science teacher, was put on probation for one year after passing along an anonymous document criticizing the publishing society...

"Steve Gottschalk, the Christian Science historian and longtime employee of the church left his job last year after church leaders expressed displeasure at comments he made about the level of internal repression...

"Many other have also left or been forced out, including Lee Johnson, the church's longtime archivist, who was fired without explanation last year...

"An eerie spirit of repression and ostracism has taken over the church and publishing house,' says one former publishing society employee." (End Quotation)

Restoration Fund

Contributions from around the world have been received for the **M.B.E. Fund** to restore Mary Baker Eddy's church to her original design. Please send *your* donation to:

Robert B. Eyre, Foehl & Eyre P.C.
27 East Front Street
Media, PA 19063 U.S.A.

VOLUME TWENTY-NINE / NUMBER TWO
WINTER 2016 ** ZANESVILLE, OHIO

NEW HAMPSHIRE DISCOVERIES

The inquiry continues into "suspected violations of the fiduciary and contractual obligations of the Directors, members of the Committee on Finance... and/or other officers of The Mother Church including possible misuse and gross mismanagement of the Trusts' assets..." [See Summer 2015 *Banner*]

The attorneys representing unnamed members of The Mother Church have discovered significant breaches of Mrs. Eddy's deeds of trust filed with the probate court of New Hampshire. They are detailed in 324 pages of violations and noncompliance by current and former trustees.

In 1972, the copyrights to Mary Baker Eddy's writings were stripped from her Will and deeds of trusts and transferred to The First Church of Christ, Scientist, in Boston. In the November 1976 *Christian Science Journal*, the directors stated, "For a long time the Directors felt that some way should be found to carry out Mrs. Eddy's wish that the rights of publication be placed in her Church rather than in a trust administered by a court." (p. 657) There is no evidence that Mrs. Eddy ever stated any such "wish". She devoted considerable time to meticulously establishing her deeds of trust from the first in 1892 until the final one in 1907.

Originally, she appointed her cousin General Henry M. Baker as one of her trustees. On his passing she appointed Josiah E. Fernald as a sixth trustee who served as administrator until his passing in 1949. He was president of Concord's National State Capital Bank. Neither was a Christian Scientist. Mrs. Eddy once remarked, "Mr. Fernald, you are a better Christian Scientist than many of my students because you are a better Christian."

Mr. Fernald later wrote, "I am not a follower of the Christian Science faith but make this statement as a citizen of Concord who wishes to see the things that are true, the things that are honest and the things that are just prevail." [*M.B.E. The Years of Authority* by Robert Peel, pp. 473, 474] The practice of appointing a disinterested sixth trustee was discontinued with the passing of Mr. Fernald in 1949. I. Reed Gourley was an officer in Mr. Fernald's bank and served Mrs. Eddy's trust as treasurer/administrator, but he was never made a trustee. No independent administrator has been

appointed since 1971. The next year, Mrs. Eddy's copyrights were stripped from her New Hampshire trust.

BENEFICIARIES OF MRS. EDDY'S TRUSTS

In her Will, Mrs. Eddy stated that a portion of her estate's income was to be used to maintain the church building and her former residences and that the balance be used "for the purpose of more effectually promoting and extending the religion of Christian Science as taught by me." In the *Chase v Dickey* case of 1912, the Directors asserted, "...the fund is not needed for the repair of the church building and the Commonwealth Avenue house and is to be devoted exclusively for more effectually promoting and extending the religion of Christian Science." Early reports of the Annual Meeting verify that the major portion of the fund was used to assist branch church building expenses, as well as lectures and literature in the field.

THAT WAS THEN...

Recent Annual Meeting reports reveal that the funds now are used to maintain the Christian Science Plaza with no mention of assistance to branch churches or activities in the field. The 2015 Annual Meeting announced that \$25,000,000 was spent just to maintain the church plaza. The Church Center was constructed between 1967 and 1973. The *Boston Globe* of March 12, 1978, reported that the original contractor's bid, on a cost-plus basis was \$28.8 million, but the actual final cost was \$82.9 million. [See *Christian Science After 1910*, by Andrew W. Hartsook, p. 132] The new construction went far beyond actual space requirements. Now the Colonnade and Administration Buildings have been vacated and are being leased to outside businesses. The Sunday School building also has been vacated and is scheduled to be leased. Not even printing of the periodicals or subscription management are done on site.

MRS. EDDY'S OWN BRANCH CHURCH

First Church, Concord, New Hampshire, was always given ample assistance from Mrs. Eddy's trust fund. But now, Mrs. Eddy's own branch church has been cut off and has had to send out appeal letters (March and December 2014) to other churches in the field requesting help to repoint and repair the granite tower and slate roof. "We have taken precautionary measures to protect the building for the winter and are working to complete repairs that would meet immediate needs to prevent further water intrusion and damage to the church edifice."

[www.christianscienceconcordnh.org]

STIPULATION FOR ORDER

The Summer 2015 *Banner* carried an article about a Stipulation for Order from the Attorney General and the Director of Public Charities of New Hampshire dated August 23, 1993, which required the Directors to repay money borrowed from Mrs. Eddy's trusts. The Directors borrowed the money in their vain attempt to keep the ill-conceived Monitor Channel project alive. They agreed to repay the money at that time. It now turns out that the money was never actually transferred to the Trust but merely put into a Mother Church account. Also there is no record that the surety bond for \$500,000 required by Mrs. Eddy's 1907 Deed of Trust has been maintained. The deeds of 1892 and 1903 are printed in the *Church Manual*. The rest of the deeds became inaccessible and remained hidden until Michael Ritchie of Scotland, working with a New Hampshire resident, retrieved them from storage and had copies made. (See Spring 2013 *Banner*).

To read Mrs. Eddy's Last Will and Testament and her Deeds of Trust for 1892, 1903, 1904, 1905, 1906, and 1907 go to www.mbefund.net To donate, send to:

M.B.E. Fund, Robert B. Eyre

Foehl & Eyre P.C.

27 East Front Street

Media, PA 19063 USA

2015 NORMAL CLASS

The 2015 Normal Class was held in Boston in December. The teacher was Allison W. "Skip" Phinney, Jr. The twenty-five new teachers are: Arneth, Heike (Germany); Mary Beattie (Australia); Susan Steinemann Collins (USA); Jurg Eichenberger (Switzerland); Evelin Castellar D. Frizotti (Brazil); Thomas Johnsen (USA); Kate Johnson (USA); Madora M. Kibbe (USA); Juliane Klein (Germany); John Kohler (USA); Kim Crooks Korinek (USA); Annu Matthai (India); Brenda I. McKinstry (Canada); Carol Rockhold Miller (USA); Joshua Niles (USA); Gloria Jean Preston (USA); Yvonne Joy Prinsloo (South Africa); Ricardo E. Saldivar (USA); Julie Mensing Simpson (USA); Fabian Hector Smara (Argentina); Mojisola Anjorin Solanke (Nigeria); Sue A. Spotts (USA); Lindsey J. Taylor (England); Ligery Tzanetea (Greece); and Doris Ulich (Germany)

NEW AGE SUGGESTIONS RETURN

The *Banner* received a report that one of the new teachers from the German field features New Age guru Marianne Williamson and *A Course in Miracles* by Helen Schucman on her web site. Ms. Williamson was featured in the July 2002 *Christian Science Journal* along with Islamic and Buddhist scholars (pp. 30-32).

Former Christian Science board chairman Virginia Harris spoke at Williamson's "Church of Today" on September 27, 2000, and Joni Overton-Jung, a Christian Science teacher and lecturer, taught a class on Christian

Science at the same church during May of 2001. In recent years, the church has backed away from these "outreach" activities.

NINE MORE CHURCH CLOSINGS

A comparison of the September and December 2015 issues of *The Christian Science Journal* reveals that the following nine churches have closed: Jackson, California; Long Beach (1st), California; Wauconda, Illinois; Indianapolis (3rd), Indiana; Kendalville, Indiana; Detroit, Michigan; Hamburg, New York; Tryon, North Carolina; Houston (1st), Texas. At the same time, First Church, Columbus, Ohio, ~~reappeared~~ in the church listings after disappearing from the May 2015 *Journal*. Since the count began in February 1987, 987 churches have closed and 81 have opened in the United States.

BRANCH CHURCHES WORLDWIDE

1908	1,059
1951	3,049 (2,279 U.S., 770 elsewhere)
1961	3,273
1993	2,467
2011	1,673
2012	1,666 (1,153 U.S., 513 elsewhere)
2013	1,632 (1,129 U.S., 503 elsewhere)
2014	1,575 (1,074 U.S., 489 elsewhere)
2015	1,563 (1,079 U.S., 473 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
Dec 2015	1,277

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*
Dec 2015	208*

SENTINEL'S PAID SUBSCRIPTIONS

The October 26, 2015, *Christian Science Sentinel* (p. 23) gave the annual required U.S. Postal Service statement of current, paid circulation: 17,573.

1933	170,784
1997	44,995
1998	50,868 *life style edition began
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
2015	17,573

MONITOR'S LOSSES CONTINUE

The required U.S. Postal Service statement of current, paid circulation appeared in the October 19, 2015, *Christian Science Monitor* (p. 4): 42,315

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	
2015	42,315	

HEALING AMONG THE INDIANS

A testimony by Martha Sutton Thompson in the August 1901 *Christian Science Journal* is presented for readers: "Several years ago I was requested by a young Indian to treat his sister for consumption in an advanced stage. Two weeks afterwards I again visited the town of Walhalla at the foot of the Pembina Mountains, and in these mountains the Indians lived. an Indian boy was in town with horse and buggy in the hope of taking me out to the settlement to see some others who were ill with various diseases. I told him I was going on to Winnipeg the next morning and would have to make the visit that night if I went. He assured me they would all be awaiting me at his father's cabin.

"We started across the mountains after ten o'clock at night. After a five mile drive we arrived at his home, -- a log structure about twenty feet square daubed with clay and roofed with sod. When I went into the dimly-lighted but cleanly apartment, I found nineteen dusky patients squatted in a circle against the walls waiting to be healed. They said Rosalie had recovered so rapidly that they knew it was the work of the Great Spirit, and so they all wanted to be healed.

"I said, 'And do you believe God will surely heal you?' They laughed, as at a jest, replying, 'Oh, yes, yes; we know He will.' Only a few could talk plainly. Nearly all understood conversation carried on in simple words. One interpreted for those who wanted treatment, bringing them up to me one by one, and giving me their names. I talked in a simple manner of God's goodness and love, and how that love destroyed evil, and of the

obligations of the patients to correct their lives and obey God and love each other and be honest, etc. All this was listened to with intense interest and noddings of approval and assent.

"After the guests had departed the several men belonging to Rosalie's family went out to sleep in a shanty, leaving the cabin to the women. I was given a comfortable bed and rested tranquilly between clean, pink calico sheets. The next morning I started off early for a twenty-five-mile drive to catch the train.

"Two weeks later found me again at the log cabin. But what a transformation! I literally did not recognize my patients. The Sioux Indians are afflicted with consumption and bad blood, breaking out in large blotches, and causing sore, red, weak eyes. I left them a lean, weak, hollow-eyed, sore-bodied crowd; I found them fat, strong, bright-eyed, clean-skinned, and happy. The old gentleman had been thrown from a horse seven years before, breaking two ribs from his spine. An unsuccessful surgical operation had left them loose and constantly grating and sore, the continual torture making life miserable. He was healed and hearty, and told me in his broken way that the ribs were knit tightly in place. He had gained twenty pounds, and he said, 'I feel twenty-five years old.' All vestiges of eruption had disappeared from the married daughter and husband, and their faces were full and happy.

"But I looked in vain for their little boy 'Johnny,' whose thin face and lean legs were sorely afflicted with the red blotches. A robust youngster with round cheeks was playing about the room, and when I asked for Johnny his mother pointed him out, exclaiming, 'This is Johnny; but he is well now.'

"A boy of about sixteen with fleshy face and small, twinkling eyes came to the door and stood grinning at me. I looked closely, but recognized nothing familiar in the face, and asked, 'Who is this?' 'Why, that is Sam,' they cried. Now Sam had brought me out from Walhalla on my first visit, and had left on my mind the picture of a thin-faced lad with big black eyes set into red hollows.

"All consumptive symptoms prevailing among these families had disappeared. I have since thought much about this experience. We do not envy these people their lot, but their rapid physical transformation proves, by contrast, the tenacity of our educated beliefs, and their positive faith and its quick and astonishing results puts to shame our enlightened (?) doubt and protracted recovery.

"I submit this for publication, not as any proof that these people are nearer the truth of Christian Science than others, but as a most convincing proof that human doctrines and doubts and false education make the way long and tiresome.

"One fact I wish to emphasize is that I have not

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overdrawn the picture. I have often thought of sending this to the *Journal* and have not, because it sounds like exaggeration. Afterward another man of the Chippewa race sent for me. He had been gored by a savage animal ten or fifteen years before, and had ever since worn a leathern belt, about ten inches in width to protect the rupture. He was a very large man. He told me he could not lay it off for even half a day, and could not drive horses without it. I treated him about ten o'clock at night, and he immediately took off his belt at my request and retired for the night. The next day he drove a span of young, spirited horses through the woods and helped load logs on a sled, suffering no inconvenience from the exertion. The rupture was healed." (pp. 301-303)

Martha Sutton Thompson, C.S.B., was a *Journal*-listed practitioner and Normal Course Graduate of Massachusetts Metaphysical College. She resided in Grand Forks, North Dakota.

ONE HUNDRED FIFTIETH ANNIVERSARY

February 4, 2016, will mark the sesquicentennial of Mrs. Eddy's discovery of Christian Science in 1866.

The Banner is reprinting excerpts from an article from the October 1897 *Christian Science Journal* by Ezra W. Reid titled, "The Second Coming of Christ" (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 Cyclopedia).

"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?

"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.

"Jesus said that the Comforter, the Holy Ghost, the Spirit of Truth would come, and lead into all Truth... With an irresistible power it has advanced until within the short space of thirty years its adherents are numbered by hundreds of thousands, and over a million of people attest its beneficence.

"The Kingdom *has come*, and, as the light which is all diffused, is *the presence of the Christ*."

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 SPRING 2016 ** ZANESVILLE, OHIO

HEARING IN NEW HAMPSHIRE

On March 14, 2016, a hearing was held in the courtroom at the 6th Circuit - Probate Division, in Concord. The attorneys representing unnamed members of the The Mother Church made a forceful presentation concerning their clients' standing in the court and submitted evidence to support that contention.

The next issue to be determined is whether branch churches are beneficiaries of Mrs. Eddy's will and, therefore, merit recognition by the court. The focus will be on Clauses VI and VIII of Mrs. Eddy's Last Will and Testament. In particular Clause VIII stipulates, "I desire that such portion of the income of my residuary estate as may be necessary shall be used for the purpose of keeping in repair the church building and my former house at #385 Commonwealth Avenue in said Boston, which has been transferred to said Mother Church, and any building or buildings which may be, by necessity or convenience, substituted therefor; and so far as may be necessary, to maintain my said homestead and grounds ("Pleasant View" in Concord, New Hampshire) in a perpetual state of repair and cultivation for the use and purposes heretofore in this will expressed; and I desire that the balance of said income, and such portion of the principal as may be deemed wise, shall be devoted and used by said residuary legatee for the purpose of more effectually promoting and extending the religion of Christian Science as taught by me." (Pleasant View was subsequently burned to the ground by order of the Directors in 1917. The stone monument at Mrs. Eddy's birthplace, dedicated on the centennial of her birth in 1921, was dynamited by order of the Directors in 1962.)

BACKGROUND

At the inception of the Clause VIII Trust established by Mrs. Eddy's will in 1913, Josiah Fernald was named administrator. He and the five directors constituted the trustees. Mr. Fernald had been administrator of Mrs. Eddy's estate and a financial advisor to her before her passing. He was not a Christian Scientist. Mrs. Eddy is quoted as saying, "Mr. Fernald, you are a better Christian Scientist than many of my students because you are a better Christian." (*Mary Baker Eddy, The Years of Authority* by Robert Peel, p. 473)

In *Fernald v. The First Church of Christ, Scientist* (1913), Mr. Fernald obtained a ruling that the trust fund

could not be paid directly to the Church to administer from Boston, but was to be administered in New Hampshire by court-appointed trustees since that state was the location of Mrs. Eddy's domicile at the time of her passing. During Mr. Fernald's lifetime, there were always six trustees, including Mr. Fernald (who also served as treasurer of the Trust). The securities and the operating bank account of the Trust were kept in a Concord bank of which Mr. Fernald was an officer until his retirement. He continued as trustee, administrator, and treasurer until his passing in 1949. No one was appointed to replace him as a disinterested, third party, trustee/administrator, and since then, the Trust has remained exclusively in the control of the Christian Science Board of Directors.

The Summer 2015 and Winter 2016 *Banners* reported that, in spite of the 1913 court ruling that funds from the Clause VIII Trust were to be administered from New Hampshire and could not be transferred directly to the Church, the Directors did exactly that during the Monitor Channel fiasco of 1988-1992 in an attempt to avert bankruptcy. A stipulation for order was issued on August 23, 1993, by the Probate Court of New Hampshire (involving both the Attorneys General of New Hampshire and Massachusetts) requiring a repayment schedule of the \$14,000,000 that was taken. The *Boston Globe* at that time reported that the money was not actually repaid, but rather was shifted to a separate Mother Church account.

Among other things, the unnamed members of The Mother Church are asking the Probate Court of New Hampshire to restore the sixth trustee to be administrator of the Trusts and also are requesting that it be a person of probity in keeping with Mrs. Eddy's own deliberate policy begun with her selection of General Henry M. Baker and continued with Josiah Fernald.

CLAUSE VIII

As already quoted from Mrs. Eddy will, "...I desire that the balance of said income...shall be devoted...for the purpose of more effectually promoting and extending the religion of Christian Science as taught by me."

A document received by the Attorney General of New Hampshire, (Charitable Trusts), on October 9, 1957, indicates that \$180,058.15 was distributed from Clause VIII funds for assistance in building Christian Science churches and for church equipment. Funds for distribution of Christian Science literature through branch churches were \$12,246.04. Funds for lectures

in foreign countries amounted to \$38,333.27. The special translation fund received \$11,184.05.

An examination of the Annual Report Certificate received by the Attorney General of New Hampshire (Charitable Trusts Unit), on October 1, 2015, did not indicate any disbursements for branch churches, societies, lectures, literature distribution, or for translations of Mrs. Eddy's works.

19% OF HUMANITY DEPRIVED

There is still no Chinese (Mandarin) translation of *Science & Health* even though interest in Christianity throughout China is at an all time high. With China's population for 2016 estimated to be 1,387,323,332 (worldpopulationreview.com), how many potential readers in Asia are being overlooked and deprived of the Comforter?

THE C.S. FIELD NEGLECTED

According to the above referenced Annual Report Certificate, all Clause VIII payments for the fiscal year ending March 2015 were made for cleaning the Mother Church edifice and the First Reader's residence, insurance, outside maintenance & repair, real estate taxes, safety, security, shops, other contracts, electricity, gas & oil, water & sewer, and interoffice mail. The total expenses for these were listed as \$480,065.75.

It was announced at the 2015 Annual Meeting that approximately \$25,000,000 was spent to maintain the church buildings and the plaza. The source of these funds was not given. (*Christian Science Journal*, September 2015, p. 10)

In *Chase v. Dickey* (1912), the Directors assured the Massachusetts Supreme Judicial Court that there would be no need to use Clause VIII funds for repair of buildings of The Mother Church and that the Clause VIII Trust would be used exclusively for the distinct purpose of promoting and extending Christian Science as taught by Mrs. Eddy.

In the mid 1980s, a letter from The Mother Church was sent to First Church, Concord, New Hampshire, informing them that they would no longer receive financial support. Mrs. Eddy built the Concord church in 1904, and since then, it has always represented the crown jewel of branch churches. Subsequent to the cutoff of Clause VIII funds, the Concord branch was compelled to send out appeals to the Christian Science field seeking funds to repair the granite tower and the slate roof. [See Winter 2016 *Banner*)]

As noted elsewhere in this issue of *The Banner*, 995 branch churches have closed in the United States since 1987. How many of those might have remained open with the intended support from Mrs. Eddy's Clause VIII provisions established by her Will?

READ THE EVIDENCE FOR YOURSELF

To read Mrs. Eddy's Last Will and Testament and her

Deeds of Trust for 1892, 1903, 1904, 1905, 1906, and 1907 as well as other vital documentation and background material, go to www.mbefund.net.

To support the effort to restore the bylaws, provisions of her Will, and her Deeds of Trust "for the purpose of more effectually promoting and extending the religion of Christian Science as taught by me [Mary Baker Eddy]", donations may be sent to:

M.B.E. Fund c/o of Robert B. Eyre

Foehl & Eyre P.C.

27 East Front Street

Media, PA 19063 USA

EIGHT MORE CHURCH CLOSINGS

A comparison of the December 2015 and March 2016 issues of *The Christian Science Journal* indicates that the following eight churches have closed in the United States: Paradise, California; Clermont, Florida; Saint Cloud, Florida; Arlington Heights, Illinois; Bloomington, Illinois; Kansas City (4th), Missouri; Huntington, West Virginia; and Eau Claire, Wisconsin. Since the count began in February 1987, 995 churches have closed and 81 have opened.

A LONG HISTORY

Mrs. Eddy writes, "Referring to the materiality of the age, Jesus said: 'The hour cometh, and now is when the true worshippers shall worship the Father in spirit and in truth.' 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 31: 25)

Farther on she writes, "There is a large class of thinkers whose bigotry and conceit twist every fact to suit themselves... Another class, still more unfortunate, are so depraved that they appear to be innocent. They utter a falsehood while looking you blandly in the face, and they never fail to stab their benefactor in the back. (S&H 450: 1, 2; 4-8)

In *Miscellaneous Writings*, she states, "The mental stages of crime, which seem to belong to the latter days are strictly classified in metaphysics as some of the many features and forms of what is properly denominated, in extreme cases, moral idiocy. I visited in his cell the assassin of President Garfield, and found him in the mental state called moral idiocy. He had no sense of his crime, but regarded his act as one of simple justice, and himself as the victim. My few words touched him; he sank back in his chair, limp and pale; his flippancy had fled. The jailer thanked me, and said, 'Other visitors have brought to him bouquets, but you have brought what will do him good.'

"This mental disease at first shows itself in extreme sensitiveness; then, in a loss of self-knowledge and of

self-condemnation, -- a shocking inability to see one's own faults, but an exaggerating sense of other people's. Unless this mental condition be overcome, it ends in a total loss of moral intellectual and spiritual discernment, and is characterized in this Scripture: 'The fool hath said in his heart, There is no God.' This state of mind is the exemplification of total depravity, and the result of sensuous mind in matter...

"Already I clearly recognize that mental malpractice, if persisted in, will end in insanity, dementia, or moral idiocy. Thank God! this evil can be resisted by true Christianity...

"I am astounded at the apathy of some students on the subject of sin and mental malpractice, and their culpable ignorance of the workings of these -- and even the teacher's own deficiency in this department. I can account for this state of mind in the teacher only as the result of sin; otherwise his own guilt as a mental malpractitioner, and fear of being found out." (pp. 110-116)

To those who are engaged in organized, methodical, mental malpractice, such as the Committee on Business, the following observation by Mrs. Eddy should be of special interest: "You say, 'I have burned my finger.' This is an exact statement, more exact than you suppose; for mortal mind, and not matter burns it. 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 161: 3)

AN INTRIGUING INTEREST IN MALPRACTICE PRAYERS

Spindrift Research investigated and tested prayers from different religions. The Spindrift amateur scientists are Christian Scientists. Two practitioners began and led Spindrift, Bruce and John Klingbeil. See the website at www.SpindriftResearch.org.

Apart from testing prayers to see how they worked, who was decent at praying and who was not so much, Spindrift also tested negative prayers. In its search for religious people to test, Spindrift found out about the good and bad ways in which Muslims prayed. In 1986-87, Spindrift began to warn people of the negative malpractice prayers of the Muslim terrorists.

For over a year now, Spindrift has been contacted by a number of workers in law enforcement and some in homeland security. Spindrift assumes there must be lots of apprehension and fear in the air that inquiries are coming in to a so-called fringe science group. There must be a lot for Jews, Christians, and Christian Scientists to be alert to and pray about suggested by the inquiries into what Spindrift found out about positive and negative prayers. ---Submitted to *The Banner*

BRUCE AND JOHN KLINGBEIL

"A newspaper article in the *Statesman-Journal* of Salem, Oregon, of December 14, 1987 entitled 'Plants grow to appreciate prayer; reported the experiments of father and son Christian Scientists, Bruce and John Klingbeil: 'He and his son John said they have been conducting scientific research in the power of positive silent prayer for a dozen years... We now have done a battery of tests that we are totally able to stand behind. The theory and methodology are in place, and we are ready to stand behind what we have done... Bruce Klingbeil said their research has cost him his accreditation as a Christian Science practitioner after 26 years in practice... The research project to prove the effectiveness of prayer using the scientific method rather than anecdotal testimony is supported by a foundation named Spindrift, Inc., headquartered in Golden, Colorado... The church had begun excommunication proceedings against the elder Klingbeil in 1990... The *Statesman-Journal* quoted The Mother Church C.O.P. as saying, 'That sort of approach is not the kind of thing our church is involved in.' The *Christian Science Sentinel* of April 26, 1993, included an editorial entitled 'Loyal Christian Scientists'. An ex-lawyer's comments were approvingly quoted: 'There is no such thing as "loyal opposition."' (*Christian Science After 1910* by Andrew W. Hartsook, pp. 163, 190)

1947 JOURNAL ARTICLE

The August 1947 *Christian Science Journal* included an article titled "Scriptural Prophecy and its Fulfillment" by Helen Wood Bauman. Key passages follow:

"Christian Science is lifting Christendom's concept of Scriptural prophecy from the level of what is more or less mystical to the position of the foretelling of the natural operation of divine law. Our beloved Leader, Mary Baker Eddy, has given us this definition of 'prophet' in the Christian Science textbook, 'Science and Health with Key to the Scriptures'; (p.593): 'A spiritual seer; disappearance of material sense before the conscious facts of spiritual Truth.'...

"A prophet according to Mrs. Eddy's definition already quoted, is anyone who forsakes the material sense of any situation or thing and beholds in place of it the spiritual fact as it exists in absolute scientific reality...

"Christ Jesus recognized that his coming was in fulfillment of Scriptural prophecy... So important did he deem the fulfillment of Scriptural prophecy that we find him expounding his place in it even after his resurrection. His authority must be seen as of God, else his mission is misunderstood, his God-inspired commands are disregarded, his divinely derived teachings ignored and neglected by mankind...

"The question is often asked, Why did Mrs. Eddy discover Christian Science and write the Christian

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Concord Church Spire

Science textbook? Why did not some other individual -- a man, perhaps -- bring this final revelation of spiritual truth to mankind? The answer lies in the fact that God appoints His own messengers through law; that is, God inevitably declares His Word through the consciousness most ready to accept and proclaim it....

"In many Scriptural passages the coming of Christian Science was hinted; but the Galilean Prophet, the master Christian, prophesied its appearing with vivid clarity. He described it as 'the Comforter, which is the Holy Ghost, whom the Father will send in my name,' and said, 'he shall teach you all things, and bring all things to your remembrance, whatsoever I have said unto you' (John 14:26) From these words it is evident that an interpreter of the teachings of Christ Jesus was destined to appear. Later, in his glorious revelation to John, there is prophesied the coming of 'a woman clothed with the sun, and the moon under her feet, and upon her head a crown of twelve stars' (Rev. 12:1)...

"In order to gain a correct estimate of Mrs. Eddy's position in the fulfillment of Scriptural prophecies, it is necessary to understand how the momentum of prophetic fulfillment gathered force throughout the centuries following their utterance. When God's law of prophetic fulfillment attained in human consciousness the fullness

of recognition sufficient for His spiritual requirement, the discovery and founding of Christian Science were made possible....

"Because Christian Science was the exact culminating point of the fine distillation of Love's self-revealing forces, no other individual was prepared to be the Discoverer of Christian Science and the author of its spiritually revealed textbook. No other, therefore, can ever take Mrs. Eddy's place as the Leader of the Christian Science movement or destroy the continuing spirit of that leadership as expressed in her Manual of The Mother Church...

"Inability to demonstrate Christian Science has often been traced to an insufficient appreciation of the true position of its revelator or to a failure to handle a secret antagonism to her personality which seems to present itself in devious ways to the unwary...

"Every Christian Scientist is a prophet in the degree that his vision of spiritual reality is sufficiently clear to dispel the illusion of error and reveal the presence of eternal Truth. Every Christian Science demonstration is, in that degree, prophecy fulfilled...

"Scriptural prophecy is still in process of fulfillment in the lives of those who help 'the woman' (Rev. 12:16), those who understand and demonstrate the divine ideas which Mrs. Eddy revealed. It will be completely fulfilled only when the Science of being is fully demonstrated. (pp 358-360)

VOLUME TWENTY-NINE / NUMBER FOUR
SUMMER 2016 ** ZANESVILLE, OHIO

BACKGROUND TO THE PRESENT NEW HAMPSHIRE PROCEEDINGS

After Mrs. Eddy's passing in December 1910, the Christian Science Board of Directors began action to seize the residue of her estate in New Hampshire and to nullify provisions of her last will and testament which detailed her instructions for the charitable use of her property and the financial assets.

The Massachusetts legislature passed enabling legislation so that Mrs. Eddy's entire estate in New Hampshire could be transferred to the directors so they could dispose of the assets as they saw fit. Josiah Fernald, who was administrator of Mrs. Eddy's estate, filed a brief against this highhanded seizure to the New Hampshire Supreme Court in 1913.

In its decision denying the directors' demands, the Supreme Court stated: "Counsel for the Church and these five directors in their brief seem to lay great stress upon the fact that they have obtained the passage of the Act above referred to, as though an enactment of a Massachusetts Legislature could lay down a rule of action for this Court to follow in a matter where the rights of the parties and the condition of a trust had already become fixed and perpetual."

The Court noted elsewhere in their decision: "Mrs. Eddy was a woman of remarkable business capacity. She provided in her will that *the executor therein named should be excused from giving any sureties on his official bond. She did not provide that those acting in behalf of the Church as trustees should be excused from giving a bond.* Having in mind her remarkable intelligence and far-sightedness, this omission is strikingly significant." (emphasis added)

The Court then quoted from their *Baker v. Glover* decision of 1912: "The testatrix intended the trust to be administered by persons professing the belief she desired to promote. Such persons it would be the duty of the court to appoint, should occasion arise, or at least none in hostility thereto should be permitted to undertake the execution of the trust.

"This language plainly carries with it the implication that it might become the duty of the court 'to appoint persons not in hostility to the belief she desired to promote,' *other than these five directors.*" (emphasis added)

Earlier in its decision, the Court noted: "But for the wisdom and the patient toil and research of this Court, this property might already have become scattered to the four winds of Heaven, and the beneficent wishes and plans of this queenly almoner have been forever blasted."

This 1913 New Hampshire Supreme Court decision lay hidden and unknown for more than one hundred years. (To read the entire Supreme Court decision, see "Fernald Decision": at mbefund.net)

ONE THOUSAND CHURCHES CLOSED

A comparison of the church listings in the March and June 2016 issues of *The Christian Science Journal* reveals that the following seven churches have closed: Simi Valley, California; Venice, California; Salina, Kansas; Hingham, Massachusetts; Cheboygan, Michigan; Hanover, Pennsylvania; and Shepherdstown, West Virginia.

At the same time, First Church, Columbus, Ohio, which had disappeared from the May 2015 *Journal*, reappeared in the December 2015 issue. First Church merged with and assumed the property of Third Church which then disappeared from the church listings.

First Church, Bloomington, Illinois, disappeared from the January 2016 *Journal* only to reappear in the June 2016 listing with a new address. The *Journal* added a new church listing for Pleasantville, New Jersey.

Since the count began in February 1987 (a period of just 29 years), 1002 churches have closed in the United States (including 3rd Church Columbus, Ohio) and 81 have opened. (Shepherdstown, WV, previously having been listed as newly opened, now is deleted from the list, and so the number of newly opened churches/societies remains at 81.)

THE DIMINISHED ROLE OF BRANCHES

The Spring 2016 *Banner* noted that the 2015 Annual Report Certificate for Clause VIII funds disbursed through Mrs. Eddy's will did not include any support for promoting and extending Christian Science as taught by Mrs. Eddy. The same *Banner* noted that Mrs. Eddy's own branch church in Concord, New Hampshire, was informed in the 1980s that it would no longer receive financial support from The Mother Church.

The Winter 2004 *Banner* noted, "Some members of Christian Science churches that have significant membership or valuable real estate believe that their branch churches are the focus of special attention by the Mother Church. Typically, a local member who has

close ties to Boston will submit proposed by-laws as if they originated with him when they were really drafted in Boston. Typical by-law changes include: 'Should _____ Church ever cease to function as a Branch or Society of The First Church of Christ, Scientist, in Boston, Massachusetts, then all the assets and property of _____ Church become the property of The First Church of Christ, Scientist, in Boston.' ... In the past, *The Christian Science Journal* has run notices suggesting that any branch church considering updating its by-laws could submit them to Boston for guidance and suggestions. Invariably, the branch church was urged to transfer its assets to The Mother Church in the event of its disbanding." [End quotes]

The question is: Wouldn't the remaining assets of disbanded churches be put to better use in the field by other branch churches (for lectures, for instance) rather than sitting unused in Mother Church bank accounts?

Some fifteen or twenty years ago, an historic southern California church informed Boston that it intended to disband because of a greatly diminished membership. On hearing of the intended closing, Christian Scientists in the area transferred their memberships to the beleaguered church to keep it open. When the branch church joyfully informed Boston that it had decided not to disband after all, a local lawyer affiliated with the Boston administration informed the church that it would have to follow through with its original plan to close and send its remaining assets to The Mother Church. The church declined to do so, but its listing was removed from the *Journal* anyway. Later the listing was restored, and the church remains open to this day.

20 YEAR TEMPLATE

In 1999, a *20 Year Template for Christian Science Reading Rooms Worldwide* was formulated in Boston. Branch churches in the field that financially support the reading rooms played no role in the template's ambitious plans. In fact the template envisioned that reading rooms, rather than branch churches, would sponsor lectures and hold church services on reading room premises. The stated goals suggested that twelve reading rooms would be doing so by the year 2000; 50 would be doing it by 2004; and 500 would be holding church services by 2019. One hundred fifty reading rooms would be sponsoring at least one lecture by 2002; 500 would have lectures by 2004; 500 would hold one lecture a month by 2009; and by 2019 100% of reading rooms would sponsor one lecture every month. Also 100% of reading rooms would break-even or be profitable by 2019.

Also reading rooms would sponsor events for travelers and college students, talks on women's issues,

personal growth, talks for moms and children, and for seekers of Health, Spirituality, and "inter-faith Science". One of the template's goals for 2009 was an "intergalactic TMC RR on Mir space station".

The reader will recognize all of this as motivational hype, but the template was followed up by reading room workshops (See Winter 2000 *Banner*)

2000 HOUSTON MEETING

The Spring 2001 *Banner* reported on this meeting titled: *Demand-Response: 21st Century Spiritual Seeker* "After Virginia Harris had given her keynote address to the conference, she 'announced that we were all being given our own copy of the new 'life-companioning' version of the Trade edition [of *Science and Health*]. She picked up the book and started waving it over her head. As people were given their books, they joined the wave and eventually the room [was] silently filled with people following Ginny in waving their Trade editions. (It was very spooky.).

"At least four letters have been circulated in the field describing this meeting. These letters were prompted by the troubling nature of the gathering which included fresh disregard for the Church Manual and a determination to work around branch churches rather than with them. The accounts given in these letters project an eerie resemblance to the artificial enthusiasm generated by the now defunct Monitor Channel project of 1988-1992... Reading Room librarians are being told that the reading rooms are separate entities which should make their own decisions, have their own funding, sponsor their own lectures, and host their own bookstore talks. The practical result is that local reading rooms will be under the control of The Mother Church. The branch churches are, at best, on the fringes of this new vision for reviving interest in Christian Science. C.O.P.s are being told that they are not representatives of the Church of Christ, Scientist, but rather of the 'Science of the Christ'..." (Emphasis added)

One state C.O.P. was fired for circulating a letter describing the meeting.

2001 SENECA FALLS WORKSHOP

The Fall 2001 *Banner* reported on a reading room librarian workshop held at Seneca Falls, New York: "Librarians are urged to get out into the community and to familiarize themselves with the women's movement and be ready to explain Mrs. Eddy's role in it... At such an event, librarians should not mention God, Christian Science, or church. *Science and Health* should be described as a book about an alternative healing method. When talking to doctors or nurses, librarians should say, 'We are in the healing business too.' ... Attendees are urged not to tell too much to their branch board of directors. They are urged to gradually implement the

changes learned at Seneca Falls since, otherwise, opposition might spoil the new initiatives." (Emphasis added)

JOB INTERVIEW

A Christian Scientist who interviewed for employment at The Mother Church in 2001, reports that in the course of the conversation, the interviewer casually mentioned that branch churches were being phased out. The individual ultimately decided not to accept any employment because of perceived malicious animal magnetism pervasive at Boston headquarters.

C.O.P. RESTRUCTURING

The Summer 2012 *Banner* reported: "Recently, the C.O.P. office in Boston has decided to focus on social media and the use of blogs and twittering and to downplay the clearly defined processes outlined by Mrs. Eddy in the *Manual* ["correct in a Christian manner impositions on the public in regard to Christian Science, injustices done Mrs. Eddy or member of this Church by the daily press, or periodicals or circulated literature of any sort." Article XXXIII, Sect. 2]

"Considerable resistance has been encountered as Boston tries to strong-arm committees around the world into adopting this new strategy. As part of this process, Boston is attempting to gain direct control of C.O.P. trust funds in other countries as well as in the United States. Reportedly, state committees are being pressured to transfer their state support funds to The Mother Church. They have also been advised not to inform the members of their respective states about this step since, ostensibly, nothing has really changed – the funds are only being centrally administered in order to get better interest rates. Theoretically, state committees still have access to them. (Emphasis added.)

C.O.P.s that used to have offices near their state capitol buildings, now only have post office boxes.

TMC TREASURER'S REPORT

The report of the Mother Church treasurer at the 2016 Annual Meeting indicated that \$847,000,000 were current funds on hand. Expenditures for the past year were \$105,000,000. A contribution of an unspecified amount was made to the church pension fund. There was no indication as to how much of the funds were in restricted or unrestricted accounts. A yearly summary follows:

Year	Funds on hand	Gen. Fund	Expenses	Indebtedness
2005	\$281m		\$69m	\$157,000
2006	361m	\$66m	97m	0
2007	474m	146m	97m	0
2008	496m	196m	113m	0
2009	379m		108m	0
2010	455m		102m	0
2011	514m		93m	0
2012	499m		99m	0
2013	632m		88m	0
2014	713m		80m	0
2015	837m		84m	0
2016	847m		105m	0

A STATEMENT

John W. Doorly joined The Mother Church in 1904. He became a *Journal*-listed practitioner in 1907. He was appointed a Teacher in 1910. He was appointed to the Board of Lectureship in 1914 and retired from the position in 1929. In 1918, he was appointed President of The Mother Church.

In his 1945 booklet titled *A Statement*, he wrote, "In 1926 I was asked by the Board of Directors to allow my name to be considered as First Reader of The Mother Church, being, I understand, the first non-American to be considered for that position. I declined this honor, as I felt my work was in England..."

"In my travels throughout our movement, all over the world, I had become more and more convinced that there were signs of great and growing danger to the future of Christian Science, due to the increasing tendency to substitute belief and religious sentiment for exact spiritual understanding and demonstration; also to a lax sense as to the 'essentially democratic' government of The Mother Church (See My. 254: 24). It was evident to me that nothing would meet this danger but a more definite and demonstrable understanding of Christian Science as revealed by our Leader, Mary Baker Eddy. This alone I felt sure would attract thinkers to our Churches, and would ensure the future development of Christian Science..."

"Eventually through earnest prayer and constant study, and through the help of others... I began to appreciate that our Leader had developed an absolutely scientific and divine metaphysical system of symbolizing the ideas of the infinite in perfect harmony, rhythm and order, whereby all men could learn, understand and demonstrate the things of God more effectually, more scientifically and more naturally than one could understand and demonstrate even such human subjects as mathematics, music, etc., etc., (See S&H 84: 30-1)..."

"Our grief and disappointment can be imagined when we discovered that although 'The time for thinkers has come' (S&H vii:13), no progressive thinking was welcome to, or even allowed by, many of our fellow Christian Scientists. Indeed we faced a wave of the bitterest persecution and misrepresentation which, I am sorry to say, has been permitted and encouraged for the last three years..."

"Eventually charges were made to The Mother Church against me as a teacher, also against my teaching, and quite recently I have received from The Christian Science Board of Directors notice that I have been suspended as a teacher of Christian Science on charges the detailed proofs of which I have so far been unable to obtain, although I have been judged and convicted on them..."

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Joriel E. Kernald

"Moreover, in justice to my former pupils, many hundreds of whom see eye to eye with me in my teaching and who have now been most severely penalized by the action of the Christian Science Board of Directors, I must make my position of unswerving loyalty to our Leader perfectly clear...

"Because I love Christian Science more than anything in all the world and because I am completely convinced that unless, as members of The Mother Church, we will awaken to the deeper, more exact and more scientific understanding of our Leader's revelation, also to the true nature of her Church government, that in about 25 years from now [1970] the Christian Science church will be in danger of becoming another small religious denomination to which humanity will pay less attention than it is even now paying...

"Unless the members of The Mother Church accept their responsibility to watch and pray constantly, and so understand, uphold and protect both the spirit and the letter of the Church Manual, inevitably history will repeat itself and the personal executive will become the government rather than the revelator's vision...

"Indeed there are few oligarchies in the world to-day where a limited number of individuals possess such unlimited power as the members of The Mother Church concede to the Christian Science Board of Directors...

"Nothing could be more disastrous to the cause of Christian Science than a blind obedience, which would destroy the very foundation of her government, involving constant spiritual watchfulness and awareness on the part of the individual members of The Mother Church. Our Leader writes, 'By loyalty in students I mean this, -- allegiance to God, subordination of the human to the divine, steadfast justice, and strict adherence to divine Truth and Love.' (Ret. 50: 19-22)...

"I am convinced that we are, as a movement, facing these two grave questions which must be answered: -- First, do Christian Scientists really understand and appreciate that Christian Science is truly and essentially scientific as well as divine, and are they giving to the study of Christian Science the intelligent 'thought, energy, and desire' (S&H 3:16) that is imperative? And secondly, is the government of the Christian Science Church 'essentially democratic'...

We are then face to face with this acute question. Is the Christian Science movement resolutely attaining what Mrs. Eddy meant it to be, a Church of Christian and scientific thinkers and demonstrators, or is it becoming an organization of faith-believers, many of whom are apathetic and indifferent?..."

John W. Doorly was excommunicated from The Mother Church on August 7, 1946.