

A NEWSLETTER FOR CHRISTIAN SCIENTISTS

*** ANDREW W. HARTSOOK, EDITOR

VOLUME SEVEN / NUMBER ONE

FALL 1993 ** ZANESVILLE, OHIO

PROPERTY AT BOW, N.H., FOR SALE

It has been reported that the Directors of The Mother Church have decided to sell most of the property at Mrs. Eddy's birthplace at Bow, New Hampshire. According to information received, the small plot of land where the Baker homestead stood will be retained by the Church. Any land developers who buy the surrounding property will be required to permit an access road to the historic site.

The property at Bow had been purchased by James F. Lord sometime after 1910. The original house had been struck by lightning and the abandoned farm had fallen into disuse. Mr. Lord improved the site and built a unique monument in the form of a pyramid capstone. (See *Landmarks from Bow to Boston* for illustration) The marker was dedicated on the one hundredth anniversary of Mrs. Eddy's birth on July 16, 1921. Former governor McCall of New Hampshire spoke and many people from Concord attended.

Mr. Lord donated the land to The Mother Church on May 18, 1927. (See *C.S. Sentinel* of June 11, 1927) The pyramid marker was dynamited in 1962 by order of The Christian Science Board of Directors. Later a more modest and less permanent marker was placed at the site.

Observers believe that the proposed sale of land is evidence of the continuing financial crisis at The Mother Church.

MORE COST CUTTING MEASURES

Two Reading Rooms of The Mother Church in Boston have been closed at 541 Boylston Street and 554-A Tremont Street according to the directory in the October 1993 *C.S. Journal*. In addition, it has been learned that The Christian Science Publishing Society building is only open to the public on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays. One restroom in the Colonnade building has been closed and the custodial staff reduced.

Mrs. Eddy's former homes at 400 Beacon Street in Brookline and 12 Broad Street in Lynn are closed. They may be toured only by appointment.

It has also been reported that Mother Church treasurer, Donald Bowersock, has told small groups of Christian Scientists around the country that the Church is deeply in debt.

THE MINNESOTA CASE

The Christian Science Monitor of August 27th reported, "A Minneapolis jury Wednesday ordered the Christian Science Church to pay \$9 million in punitive

damages for the 1989 death of an 11-year-old boy whose parents treated him with Christian Science treatment through prayer instead of conventional medicine." It would seem reasonable to surmise that the Church does not have the money to pay. The case will probably be appealed.

NURSING TIES TO BE CUT

A day long meeting held at The Mother Church on July 10, 1993, disclosed radical changes in the relationship between The Mother Church and Christian Science nursing facilities licensed by the Church. The meeting was conducted by Jean Dollins, Nursing Activities Director of The Mother Church, and Victor Westberg, Committee On Publication Manager. Administrators and trustees of the nursing facilities were in attendance.

Effective January 1, 1997, The Mother Church will no longer serve as the accrediting body for Christian Science nursing facilities. Between now and January 1997, Committees on Publication will seek to make changes in federal and state laws removing all references to The Mother Church as an accrediting agency. Nursing facilities that wish to maintain accreditation for Medicare, Medicaid, and private insurance companies will have to form their own "Association of Organizations for Christian Science Nursing" or some other entity to serve as an accrediting agency. Nursing facilities that want to maintain recognition until 1997 must comply with "1993 Standards for Nursing Organizations/Facilities Recognized by The Mother Church". It was also announced at the meeting that Christian Science nurses will no longer be required to complete a three-year training course to qualify for a *Journal*-listing. All of these changes came about as a result of a 1985 study initiated by The Christian Science Board of Directors.

The Mother Church initiated the first Benevolent Home at Chestnut Hill in 1916. This was followed by the Pleasant View Home in New Hampshire and the Arden Wood facility in California a few years later. Arden Wood was turned into a non-profit corporation in 1975. The Pleasant View Home was closed and sold in 1976. Complete responsibility for ownership and operation of the Chestnut Hill Sanatorium was transferred from The Mother Church to a board of trustees representing the Northeastern Field in 1981.

C.O.P. MEETING IN BERLIN

An international meeting of Committees on Publication will be held in Berlin, Germany on November 15, 1993. It is known that the District

Manager for Great Britain and Ireland has objected to new policies initiated by the manager of Committees on Publication at The Mother Church. Apparently the dispute involves a proposed shift away from the by-law in the *Church Manual* requiring C.O.P.s to "correct in a Christian manner impositions on the public in regard to Christian Science, injustices done Mrs. Eddy or members of this Church by the daily press, by periodicals or circulated literature of any sort." (p. 97) According to sources, the new plan will turn the C.O.P.s into public relations officers. It is assumed that the Berlin meeting will outline this new role. Because of the British District Manager's objections, he will be replaced.

EIGHT MORE CHURCH CLOSINGS

The following churches have closed between July and October 1993 according to the October *C.S. Journal*: Sanger, California; Jacksonville (1st), Florida; Joliet, Illinois; Brazil, Indiana; Mason City, Iowa; Athens, Ohio; Eagle River, Wisconsin; and Elkhorn, Wisconsin. At the same time one new society has formed at Ellensburg, Washington. Two listings have also reappeared in the *Journal* after absences for varying lengths of time: El Centro, California, and Porterville, California. Since February 1987, 256 churches have closed and 26 have been formed.

MORE KNAPP HEARINGS SCHEDULED

A hearing scheduled in Los Angeles for October 12, 1993 will reveal the agreement between The Mother Church and Stanford University to divide the money in the trust fund left by the wife and sister-in-law of Bliss Knapp. Those who oppose The Mother Church receiving any of the money for publishing Mr. Knapp's *Destiny of The Mother Church* will be given the opportunity to argue against the agreement. The case will then go to the judge who plans to announce his decision on December 14th. The group of seventeen Christian Scientists (including Richard P. Bond and Thomas P. Griesa) who object to The Mother Church receiving any of the money promise to initiate court action to prevent the Church from ever receiving the Knapp/Mabury bequest.

The current financial situation of The Mother Church could well lead to bankruptcy if the Knapp/Mabury bequest hearings are not favorably resolved. Many in the Christian Science field believe that the collapse of the current Directors would lead to a new era in Boston with new Directors chosen from among the teachers who have written letters objecting to publication of the *Destiny* book and years of financial mismanagement. These same people believe that there would be an outpouring of money and support from the field to stave off an actual foreclosure on The Mother Church's assets. Anyone familiar with the condition of the branch

churches and declining membership should realize that this is not likely to happen. The heartland of America is dotted with closed and nearly empty churches barely able to keep their own doors open. Many struggle to pay their bills and fill church offices. Most of the wealthy members have long since departed the human scene. Some non-Christian Science organizations are already positioning themselves to acquire Mother Church assets and properties if a collapse should ever occur.

BLISS KNAPP'S ASSOCIATION

A letter from Bliss Knapp's Students' Association dated September 1993, includes a six page defense of Mr. Knapp, his wife, and sister-in-law who have been attacked in letters from some teachers of Christian Science. This letter from the Knapp association recounts their teacher's close association with Mrs. Eddy and his long, distinguished service to the Cause of Christian Science. In addition many misconceptions currently being circulated about the Knapps are corrected.

NEW YORK TIMES BOOK REVIEW

The September 12, 1993 *New York Times* included a review of *The Rise and Fall of Christian Science* by Martin Gardner. The book is really an attack on Mrs. Eddy and repeats the tired assertions that she plagiarized Christian Science from Phineas Quimby and others. The publisher of this work is Prometheus Books which specializes in attacking religion in general and Christianity in particular. In the past they have cleverly advertised their books in *Biblical Archaeological Review* and other publications in order to appear as impartial examinations of the Bible and its historical context. In actual fact, their other books state that the four Gospels depict a myth and that Christ Jesus is an invented character who never existed. This new book would seem to be an opportunistic effort to cash in on the current woes in Boston and strike once again at Christianity.

ISLAM

The Gardner book, referred to above, heaps ridicule on Mrs. Eddy's warnings about Malicious Animal Magnetism. A tape recording produced by the International Christian Embassy in Jerusalem is entitled "The Threat of Islam." This recorded talk details, among other things, what could only be called a form of malicious mental malpractice: Ninety percent of all Muslims who convert to Christianity return to Islam. When a Muslim leaves the faith, a "hutaba" or prayer is undertaken based on a curse from Chapter 111 of the *Koran*. This prayer is repeated seven times a day. On the seventh day, the prayer is repeated forty-nine times. A ram is also sacrificed. If these efforts do not succeed, the case is turned over to the elders in the mosque who pray in groups of seven until the person returns to Islam or goes insane. The tape also states that Friday prayers contain a curse upon all Jews and Christians based on

specific verses in the *Koran*. In some Islamic countries, cells of young people gather in front of churches or homes of converts and church leaders. They specifically work for madness, insanity, business collapse, despair, dissension in the church, and a return to Islam. They also pray that evil spirits will be attracted to the churches. To facilitate this, pieces of pages from the *Koran* are secretly placed in the churches.

In addition the tape states that Oxford University in England now has a Center for Islamic Studies. Its patron is Prince Charles. Achbar Achmed of Cambridge University wrote *Living Islam* which states that the former battle between the West and Communism has been replaced by an apocalyptic "last crusade" between the West and the Muslim world which the latter is determined to win. In England today there are more than 200 magazines and newspapers in Arabic which are financed by Middle East oil money. In London there are 150 Muslim bookstores. The fastest growing religion in Europe and the United States is Islam.

The tape also states that the Islamic world has a population of one billion which is increasing at 2.7% per year and will double by the year 2020. The population of the West is stagnant or declining. Christians in Islamic countries are leaving. Seventy percent of all people exiting Egypt are Christians of the ancient Coptic Christian Church. In Ethiopia, home of the ancient Abyssinian Orthodox Church, there are two conversions to Islam for every one to Christianity. Today there are more people dying for their Christian beliefs than at any previous time. Nigeria and Sudan are at the sites of this martyrdom. When Bishop Tutu of South Africa visited Israel to lend his support for a Palestinian state, he unknowingly stood before a banner in Arabic which stated, "The Jews on Saturday and the Christians on Sunday." This is a popular slogan which means that the Jews will be killed on their Sabbath and the Christians on theirs. A struggle is also taking place within the Islamic world for leadership. Saudi Arabia, despite its role as guardian of Islam's holy places and its enormous oil wealth, is on the verge of political collapse. Iran is ready to lead the way in this religious crusade.

MIDDLE EAST PEACE

The *Jerusalem Post* of September 25, 1993, reported the text of a speech by Libya's dictator, Muammar Gaddafi delivered on September 1st: "I warn Jews that this is a conspiracy against them. The Palestinian state which is established in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip is a mere stage; the Palestinians will take it as a base for liberating Tel Aviv, Acre, Haifa and Jaffa... When the PLO was set up, the West Bank and the Gaza Strip belonged to Arabs. Thus the conflict was for Palestine, not for the West Bank and Gaza..." The October 2nd

Jerusalem Post noted that the proposed peace agreement was not supported by a majority of Jewish members of the Knesset. The pact was approved by the Labor and Meretz parties as well as Arab members of the Israeli parliament on September 23rd. The majority of Jewish members voted against the peace plan.

WORLD PARLIAMENT OF RELIGIONS

The World Parliament met in Chicago during the week of August 30, 1993. This series of meetings met on the hundredth anniversary of the original Parliament which convened during the Columbian Exhibition marking the 400th anniversary of Columbus' discovery of America. Mrs. Eddy reluctantly agreed to Christian Science participation in 1893. At that time papers on C.S. were read by S.J. Hanna, Edward Kimball, E.J. Foster-Eddy, Augusta Stetson, Ruth B. Ewing, Erastus Bates, Annie Knott, John Linscott, Edward Bates, E. M. Buswell, Isabella Stewart and Alfred Farlow. As it turned out, the 1893 Parliament was most notable for introducing Eastern religions to the popular American culture.

Apparently there was no official Christian Science participation at the 1993 Parliament. The September 7th *New York Times* reported, "Nearly a hundred spiritual leaders from more than a dozen faiths [including Buddhist, Hindu, Sikh, Jain, Muslim, Roman Catholic, mainline Protestant, and neo-pagans] signed a declaration outlining a common 'global' ethic... It does not use the word 'God,' coming closest in one reference to 'Ultimate Reality,' a step necessitated...to respect Buddhism and other faiths that recognize a spiritual dimension but not a personal divine creator." Christian denominations which did not participate have stated their suspicion that the Parliament was intended to foster the eventual merger of all religions into a one-world church.

A NEW BOOK:

CHRISTIAN SCIENCE AFTER 1910

Andrew W. Hartsook, editor of *The Banner*, has recently written a book which gives a year by year account of Christian Science history since the pivotal year of 1910. Using a variety of resources including statements from the Christian Science Board of Directors which have appeared in *The Christian Science Journal*, as well as books, unpublished papers, and newspaper articles, the author pieces together a picture of events and policies which have led to the current state of Christian Science eighty-three years after Mrs. Eddy's departure from the human scene. Many books have been written about Christian Science before 1910, but very few have ever given a comprehensive account for developments since that year. This new book also contains photographs and exhibits, some of which have never been published until now including the only known photograph of Mrs. Eddy's childhood home at Bow, New

Hampshire taken from a glass negative. It is hoped that *Christian Science After 1910* will serve as a resource to concerned Christian Scientists who wish to restore their Church which has departed from the spirit and letter of Mrs. Eddy's *Church Manual*. The decline in the Church is not due to circumstances or world resistance to Christian Science, but almost entirely to the despotic control exercised in Boston and mimicked in the field. It is hoped that the reader will see the necessity to restore Mrs. Eddy's plan of government. The book is available in a paperback edition for \$12.95 and a hard cover edition for \$24.95. For shipping and handling add \$2.75 for the first item and 50 cents for each additional item. The book may be ordered from: The Bookmark, P.O. Box 801143, Santa Clarita, CA 91380.

FOOTNOTE TO THE TWITCHELL CASE

On August 12, 1993 the Supreme Judicial Court of Massachusetts overturned the conviction of David and Ginger Twitchell for manslaughter in the death of their son in 1986. The prosecutor subsequently decided not to retry the case. The Twitchells' lawyer, Rikki Klieman, recently was in the news again for her representation of Vietnam war era fugitive, Katherine Ann Power according to *The New York Times* of September 16, 1993. Ms. Klieman was described as "a student radical

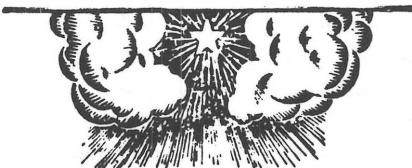
at Northwestern University" during the Vietnam war.

THE TRIUMPH OF BOOKS

The *Ohio State Quest* of Autumn 1993 states in an article about technology: "In 1964, Arthur Samuel of IBM declared that 'by 1984, libraries for books will have ceased to exist in the more advanced countries except for a few which will be preserved in museums.'... The lesson of history is that new technologies tend not to replace older ones but to supplement them... There is information from the early space flights, for example, that is forever lost because no one thought to refresh it, and it decayed. We have government information from two decades ago for which a machine to read it no longer exists... Many scholars will attest to the importance of browsing through current periodicals and randomly scanning books on library shelves as an important catalyst to creativity. In many ways computers restrict browsing... While the electronic age holds great promise for gathering all kinds of data, there remains an important distinction between information and knowledge, between access and understanding. It will be some time, if ever, before we all stay at home tethered to our PCs accessing the outside world via the network... And there will always be a need for a convenient, portable method of containing that knowledge...A book perhaps?"

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***** HIS BANNER OVER ME **THE BANNER** WAS LOVE *****

A NEWSLETTER FOR CHRISTIAN SCIENTISTS *** ANDREW W. HARTSOOK, EDITOR

VOLUME SEVEN / NUMBER TWO

WINTER 1994 ** ZANESVILLE, OHIO

KNAPP COURT ACTION MAY BE OVER

The December 15, 1993, decision by Judge Arnold Gold of the California Superior Court in Los Angeles which divided the \$100 million Knapp-Mabury trust among The Mother Church (53%), Stanford University (23.5%), and the Los Angeles County Museum (23.5%) may spell the end of this longstanding dispute over the publication of *The Destiny of The Mother Church* by Bliss Knapp. The challenge to this settlement by 17 members of The Mother Church was dismissed by the judge who stated that they had no standing or eligibility to sue in the case. These 17 objectors were given 60 days to file an appeal.

The objectors argued that the *Destiny* book deified Mary Baker Eddy and violated numerous longstanding church policies regarding literature published by the Publishing Society. The arguments offered consisted of theological expositions and background information detailing how the behind-the-scenes decision to publish the book was made by the Church's hierarchy. In addition, the objectors stated that it was disingenuous to offer the book as part of "The 20th Century Biographers Series" because the book is not really a biography. However, two other books in the series, *Mary Baker Eddy and Her Books* by William Dana Orcutt and *Tributes from the Press* are not strictly biographies either.

The objectors also offered their own list of churches and reading rooms refusing to display or sell the Bliss Knapp book. The Knapp-Mabury wills specified that the book must be carried by substantially all reading rooms in order for the Church to qualify for the money. The objectors' list was an informal compilation which would have no legal weight in a court of law. The value of the list was further compromised by sharp divisions within branch churches. Many Christian Scientists felt that the memberships had been railroaded into rejecting the book. One case in particular, The Tri-State Reading Room in New York City's World Trade Center, illustrated the point. This reading room's expensive rent is underwritten by many churches in the New York area. Yet the decision to reject the Knapp book was orchestrated by a group of influential members in a few churches without consulting other churches involved in this joint reading room activity.

American courts routinely refuse to delve into the internal affairs and beliefs of churches. The recent efforts of The Eighty-Ninth Edition, Inc. in Boston to prod the

Massachusetts and United States Attorneys General into investigating the financial mismanagement by The Mother Church Directors failed because of government reluctance to violate the church-state separation mandated by the U.S. Constitution. The efforts by the 17 objectors would seem destined to failure for the same reasons.

If, in fact, the decision in the Knapp case is upheld by the courts, there is a real question if The Mother Church will continue to publish *The Destiny of The Mother Church*. It is known that a majority of the current Board of Directors reject the statements in the Knapp book regarding Mrs. Eddy's place in Bible prophecy. They decided to publish the book solely to qualify for the \$100 million. As originally written, The Mother Church was the primary beneficiary of the Knapp-Mabury trusts. Stanford University and the Los Angeles County Museum were listed as alternate beneficiaries. Alternate beneficiaries usually act as watchdogs to see that the provisions of trusts are complied with. Now that the primary and alternate beneficiaries will divide the money, the Directors of The Mother Church could quietly withdraw the book without fear that the alternate beneficiaries would object since the latter will have already shared the spoils.

The Destiny of The Mother Church is now in its third printing and is said to be the fourth all-time best-seller in the history of The Christian Science Publishing Society after Mrs. Eddy's writings, the Bible, and the *Christian Science Hymnal*. (*Boston Globe* 10-13-93)

NEW LAWSUIT FILED IN BOSTON

The Washington Post of January 1, 1994, reported: "A group of Christian Science church members has sued fourteen former and current church leaders, accusing them of mismanaging funds and leaving the church \$83 million in debt. The group, Members for the Manual, alleged that church directors and trustees attempted to conceal the church's deteriorating financial condition after spending \$450 million on a cable television channel and other media projects that failed. The church itself was not named in the lawsuit. Officials at church headquarters had said they had not seen the lawsuit and could not comment." (End of article)

It would seem that this new legal effort is an attempt to circumvent the church-state difficulties in the Knapp case by suing individual church officers rather than The Mother Church. Fallout from the failed electronic media continues to accumulate. The December 1, 1993, *Christian Science Monitor* reported that the Church's shortwave station at Scott's Corners, Maine, had been

sold to Prophecy Countdown Inc., a Seventh Day Adventist group in Florida. The Mother Church reportedly received \$5 million in the sale.

A STARTLING REPORT

A story which is circulating in the Christian Science field is that the Christian Science Board of Directors has been considering for two years a plan to sell the entire Church administration complex in a deal which would allow them to lease it back for a period of twenty years. At the end of that time period the Church would have the option to buy it back. This story could not be confirmed and must, therefore, remain in the category of informed speculation.

EXCOMMUNICATION

According to a November 1993 *St. Louis Post-Dispatch* article, fourth-generation Christian Scientist, Suzanne Shepard, was expelled from her Kirkwood, Missouri, branch church for criticizing the church in a newspaper article and a speech. According to the *Post-Dispatch* article, "In a letter, the church's board told Shepard that she was being expelled because her public statements about Christian Science demonstrated 'a departure from a radical reliance on spiritual methods as a basis for practicing Christian Science.'"

Mrs. Shepard, who is a former *Journal*-listed practitioner, took her daughter to a hospital when she became ill and went into a coma while under Christian Science treatment. According to a related Associated Press article appearing on November 28th, There [at the hospital] she was confronted by church members who urged Shepard to take her daughter home. She was told there would be no prayers for the 6-year old child." (End of newspaper quotation)

Mary Baker Eddy states on page 444 of *Science and Health With Key to the Scriptures*, "If Christian Scientists ever fail to receive aid from other Scientists, -- their brethren upon whom they may call, -- God will still guide them into the right use of temporary and eternal means. Step by step will those who trust Him find that 'God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.'" These words are rarely quoted today. It should be clear from Mrs. Eddy's words that no one has the right to interfere with the decisions of individual Christian Scientists, and they should not be subjected to pressure or ostracism, but rather compassion, support, and understanding during difficult times.

On the heels of the Minnesota civil suit earlier this year in which a \$14.2 million judgment was rendered against The Mother Church and others involved in the death of a 11-year-old diabetic, another similar case was filed in California in December of 1993. In addition Massachusetts abolished the Christian Science exemption from child neglect laws on December 28th. It should be noted that The Mother Church released a

statement which included, "Of the 6,000 children that were lost in the commonwealth [of Massachusetts] during the 1980s, Robyn Twitchell was the only child from a Christian Science family."

It would seem that one should heed Mrs. Eddy's words in the *Church Manual*: "I recommend that each member of this Church shall strive to demonstrate by his or her practice, that Christian Science heals the sick quickly and wholly, thus proving this Science to be all that we claim for it." (p. 92) Following Mrs. Eddy's instructions and letting others make their own decisions, free from pressure or ostracism, would result in better healing and would also protect Christian Science from the misunderstanding and hostility so common today.

MORE CHURCH CLOSINGS

The following nine churches/societies have closed between October 1993 and January 1994 according to *The Christian Science Journal*: Payson, Arizona; San Francisco (11th), California; South Gate, California; Beulah-Benzonia, Michigan; Niles, Michigan; Spring Valley, New York; Celina, Ohio; Silverton, Ohio; and Warr Acres, Oklahoma. No new churches or societies were added during this time period. Since February 1987 when the count began, 265 churches have closed and 26 have been formed.

PRINCIPIA ENROLLMENT

The student newspaper, *Principia Pilot*, of October 1, 1993, stated, "Principia's enrollment is dropping. This year Prin welcomed 170 new students bringing our total student population to 548, down 66 from last year... [College President David] Pfeifer is confident Prin will still come out ahead. 'The number of Christian Scientists is shrinking and we are getting more of them. We are getting a larger percentage of a smaller pool.'"

RUSSIAN NATIONALIST LEADER

Vladimir Zhirinovsky, who won 25 percent of the recent vote in Russia, is an ardent nationalist who has a map of Russia on the wall of his office which pictures Alaska as part of a revived Russian empire. Mr. Zhirinovsky promises to reclaim the former territories which declared independence after the breakup of the Soviet Union, the lost territories at the end of World War I, as well as Alaska and Finland. He has reportedly stated that he would use force if necessary to accomplish this should he be elected President of Russia in 1996. Alaska was sold to the United States by Czar Alexander II in 1867.

A recent segment on Cable News Network included a short profile of one of Zhirinovsky's deputies. The report revealed him to be a professional stage hypnotist who specializes in hypnotizing entire auditoriums of people. The videotape showed this deputy pointing to individuals in the audience who would then dance in the aisles, make animal noises, or weep uncontrollably.

ADDRESS BY ROSCOE DRUMMOND

In an address to the Association of William V. K. Shepard on October 7, 1978, Roscoe Drummond, former editor and longtime staff member of *The Christian Science Monitor*, made the following points which have special significance today:

"When understanding of Mrs. Eddy's spiritually authorized mission has become dim and clouded, things have gone grievously wrong in our movement and our Leader and Christian Science have suffered...

"In 1899 came the Woodbury trial. Josephine Woodbury became the instrument of a fearful animus and jealousy toward the Discoverer and Leader in Christian Science. She wanted to be the Leader of Christian Science and if she had succeeded, Christian Science would not be here today. She devised a lawsuit which she thought would force Mrs. Eddy to admit at the wrong time in the wrong way before the wrong forum that she fulfilled the prophecy of the woman in the Apocalypse who would become God's second Representative. It failed -- but in part it succeeded. Because, though the court ruled with Mrs. Eddy on all points at issue, the whole affair left in its wake confusions, contradictions and doubts about Mrs. Eddy's destined spiritual role which have permeated thinking within our movement to this day...

"In 1938 The Christian Science Board of Directors created a Committee of Six (the three incumbent Editors of the Periodicals and the three most recently retired editors) to examine the private and public documents and communications from our Leader in the Archives and elsewhere and answer the question: 'Whom did Mrs. Eddy Consider Herself to be?' Their unanimous findings were embraced in the statement from The Board of Directors on 'Mrs. Eddy's Place' and published in the *Sentinel and Journal* in 1943 and re-published numerous times since. In this statement on 'Mrs. Eddy's Place' the truth about our Leader's role in Bible prophecy and fulfillment was brought visibly to light at the right time for the right reasons in the right forum, fulfilling her own prophecy that it would be appropriate in about half a century. It developed, however, that there were some layers of reluctance and resistance. These findings record literally and textually 'whom Mrs. Eddy knew herself to be', not just whom the committee knew her to be. But their issuance has not guaranteed their full acceptance or prevented erroneous and minimizing interpretations.

"As preparations for the urgent metaphysical responsibility which grandly falls on the shoulders of Twentieth Century Christian Scientists, it would be well to measure the differences between those who know that Mrs. Eddy is foreshadowed in Revelation as the one who would fulfill the prophecy of the Woman God assigned to be the author of the 'little book' and those who see

our Leader in lesser stature. Here are the ciphers (My. 235:8) which creep into any diminished view of the spiritual role of our Leader: 1- That Mary Baker Eddy was not destined to fulfill the prophecy of the Woman in Revelation who was to bring the final revelation; that, indeed, anyone could have written *Science and Health* if he or she had happened on it first. 2- That there are no gradations of rank in the heavenly kingdom. 3- That the human identity of Jesus and Mrs. Eddy were unknown to God. 4- That the transitional qualities listed on page 115 of *Science and Health* are not spiritual and therefore neither real nor permanent.

"All the spiritual truths about our Leader's spiritually ordained mission emerge in her writings. They have been clouded, in part, by those who have 'been made to neglect' her and by those who sincerely feared that to affirm that Mrs. Eddy was known to God from the foundation would deify her. It wouldn't. It never has. Jesus was known to God from the beginning. He said so. It doesn't deify him. It will not cause us to deify Mrs. Eddy as we, of course, should never do...

"Metaphysical Falsity One: It is said that our Leader happened to be so spiritually minded that she was able to discover Christian Science and write *Science and Health*. The truth is that God made our Leader so spiritually minded that she -- and no one else -- could have written *Science and Health*... Metaphysical Falsity Two: It is said that Mrs. Eddy chose God and thereby became the Final Revelator. The truth is that God chose Mrs. Eddy and Mrs. Eddy thereby became the final Revelator by God's choice and God's knowledge from the beginning. She knew herself to be the 'God-appointed' (not self-appointed) messenger to this age... Metaphysical Falsity Three: It is said that the identity of Mary Baker Eddy as the chosen author of the 'little book' could not be known to God on the theory that such knowledge would require God to know matter, to know material identity which would, of course, be impossible. The subtlety of this error is its surface plausibility. At first blush, it looks like a perfect syllogism. It reads like this: God doesn't know matter; Mrs. Eddy existed in the flesh. Therefore, God couldn't have appointed her (as she said), couldn't have anointed her (as she said), to be the one to fulfill the prophecy of the Woman because God could not know (as some contend) such a person as Mary Baker Eddy ever existed. Wrong. The truth is that man on this plane of existence has a true human identity which, like the true human consciousness is, as Mrs. Eddy says 'God-bestowed' [S&H 573:5-9], and therefore known to God from the beginning. What God bestows, God knows... The enduring transitional qualities described on page 115 of *Science and Health* constitute the true human identity... *Science and Health* affirms that 'intercommunication is always from God to man'

(284:12). And in the preface xi:15, Mrs. Eddy assures us of 'the divine influence ever present in human consciousness'. Here the term 'human' is especially significant.

"It is placed upon our shoulders -- we Christian Scientists of the Twentieth Century -- to avert a second downfall of genuine Christianity. I dare say this because our Leader has foreseen it and warned us of what we will need to accomplish what the followers of Jesus failed to accomplish after he was no longer present. For the answer I go to the highest authority. Knowing we would need the answer to copy with a future crisis in our own Movement, Mrs. Eddy gave it to us in her Message of 1902 (18:15): 'The ignoble conduct of his disciples toward their Master, showing their unfitness to follow him, ended in the temporary downfall of genuine Christianity about the year 325 A.D.'... Does it not follow logically and inescapably that Mrs. Eddy is telling us plainly that the foremost and vitalizing ingredient of this demonstration is the noble conduct of Christian Scientists toward their Leader, showing our fitness to follow her. That will prevent today and for all time the downfall of genuine Christian Science... May I put the question? It is a simple one. Will you take the case? All of us individually have our role and responsibility to work to insure that our Leader's divinely authorized place is so secure in all places that none can ever again be 'made to neglect our duty' to her." (End of Roscoe Drummond quotation)

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ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

CHRISTIAN SCIENCE AFTER 1910

By

Andrew W. Hartsook

This recently published book is a documented account of the decline of the Church after it passed from the leadership of Mary Baker Eddy to the control of The Christian Science Board of Directors. The book documents the basic causes that have led to the decline of this great movement -- causes that originated with the Directors in their relentless drive to exercise absolute control over Church members. Included in the book: Mrs. Eddy's Deed of Trust for the Publishing Society, a copy of her last will, a list of all present and past Board members, and a number of rare photographs.

Hard cover \$24.95

Paperback \$12.95

MANUAL OF THE MOTHER CHURCH 88TH EDITION

BY

MARY BAKER EDDY

This was the last *Manual* known to be issued with Mrs. Eddy's approval in September of 1910.

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CHRISTIAN SCIENCE

TRACT.

A NEWSLETTER FOR CHRISTIAN SCIENTISTS *** ANDREW W. HARTSOOK, EDITOR

VOLUME SEVEN / NUMBER THREE

SPRING 1994 ** ZANESVILLE, OHIO

APPEAL OF KNAPP SETTLEMENT FILED

Eight heirs of Bella Mabury gave formal notice on February 15, 1994, that they will contest the January 28 decision by Judge Arnold Gold to distribute the \$100 million in the Mabury-Knapp trusts with The Mother Church receiving 53%, Stanford University 23.5%, and Los Angeles Country Museum Associates 23.5%. The heirs of Eloise Mabury Knapp did not contest the Judge's distribution plan. The portion of the trust contested by the Bella Mabury heirs represents \$80 million of the total. This leaves just \$20 million to be distributed according to Judge Gold's order. It is estimated that it will take six to nine months for the court to act on this new appeal. Of the \$20 million not contested, The Mother Church will receive \$10.6 million in the next few months.

NATIONAL TELECONFERENCE HELD

A national teleconference sponsored by the Religious Public Relations Council and United Methodist Communications was held on March 22, 1994. The title of the teleconference was, "Media Relations and Crisis Readiness". The Mother Church sponsored a downlink for the Boston area, and Committees On Publication and their assistants around the country were urged to do the same. This initiative would seem to be in line with the new directions spelled out at the November 15, 1993, meeting of C.O.P.s held in Berlin, Germany. Prior to that meeting, the Manager for Great Britain and Ireland objected to these new policies which shifted the Committees away from the *Church Manual* mandate to "correct in a Christian manner impositions on the public in regard to Christian Science, injustices done Mrs. Eddy or members of this Church by the daily press, by periodicals or circulated literature of any sort." (P. 97)

The new guidelines seem to favor the manipulation techniques of the media known popularly as "spin doctoring" whereby public relations officers handle damage control by placing the most favorable "spin" on adverse publicity.

SHORTWAVE PROTEST

The Australian government recently lodged a protest with the Federal Communications Commission regarding two frequencies used by The Mother Church and two other American shortwave broadcasters. While the substance of the protest was not immediately known, it is assumed that the objection relates to broadcast interference rather than to program content.

MEETING IN ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND

It has been reported that on March 28, 1994, The Christian Science Board of Directors held a meeting in Annapolis, Maryland, with business leaders and other experts from around the country regarding the mandatory health care plan proposed by President Clinton. The compulsory features of this plan have raised concerns for Christian Scientists as well as for others in the United States who rely upon alternative means of health care.

TWO LECTURERS REMOVED

Two teachers, Jack Hubbell and Arno Preller have been notified that they will not be recommended as members of the Christian Science Board of Lectureship for the coming year. They will be permitted to give lectures already scheduled, but may not accept any more invitations. These two teachers along with Godfrey John and James Spencer had written a letter to the Board of Directors on November 30, 1993, protesting the publication of *Destiny of The Mother Church* by Bliss Knapp.

EIGHTEEN MORE CHURCHES CLOSE

According to *The Christian Science Journal*, the following eighteen churches/societies closed between January and April of this year: 21st Church, Los Angeles, CA; Piedmont, CA; Ramona, CA; Santa Paulâ, CA; Sausalito, CA; Rock Island, IL; Bowie, MD; Greenville, MS; Newark, NY; Minot, ND; Hamilton, OH; Oxford, OH; Muskogee, OK; Hermiston, OR; Indiana, PA; Devine, TX; Marshfield, WI; and Monomonee, WI. During the same period, no new churches or societies were formed.

The last issue of *The Banner* erroneously listed Christian Science Society, Payson, Arizona, as closed. It continues to operate on a seasonal basis. As of April, of this year, 282 churches/societies have closed and 26 have opened since the count began in February of 1987.

BOOK REVIEW IN MONITOR

The February 11, 1994, *Christian Science Monitor* carried a book review of *Healing Words* by Larry Dossey, M.D. The dust jacket of the book states, "Revealing one of the best-kept secrets in medical science -- prayer heals." The review by Richard A. Nenneman, former editor in chief of the *Monitor*, presented a very favorable evaluation of the book. This is surprising because the research of Bruce and John Klingbeil is included prominently in Dr. Dossey's book. The Klingbeils were Christian Science practitioners who sought to prove the power of prayer by using the standard, empirical method accepted worldwide by the orthodox scientific community. The Spindrift

organization was formed to support and disseminate their findings as well as encourage others to replicate their experiments. The Mother Church objected to their efforts and removed Bruce Klingbeil's practitioner card from *The Christian Science Journal* in 1983. The Church also initiated excommunication procedures against the elder Klingbeil in 1990. Dr. Dossey states, "When I began my search several years ago for empirical evidence for prayer's effectiveness, I naively believed that the organized religions would be delighted with experiments showing that prayer works. I came across work done by the Spindrift organization, which strongly suggests that prayer can actually change the physical world. The Spindrift scientists were affiliated with the Christian Science church, and some were actually credentialed healers. They were delighted with their empirical studies. Here is a laboratory test, they said, that can demonstrate not only the power of prayer, but whether or not any individual healer has the talent to heal. The church did not share their enthusiasm, but reacted instead with horror. They charged the Spindrift investigators with heresy, stating that it was incorrect to "bring God into the laboratory," and stripped one of the primary investigators of his credentials as a healer. Clearly the objections to scientific research on prayer do not come only from orthodox scientists." (pp. 164, 165)

In the early 1980s, Dr. Dossey was interviewed by a *Monitor* reporter for an hour, but no article ever appeared. In 1993 The American Academy for the Advancement of Science (AAAS) held its annual conference across the street from the administrative offices of The Mother Church. Two full days were devoted to the subject of science and religion. Members of other religious denominations were represented, but not one officer of The Mother Church attended.

A Christian Scientist and former member of the board of directors of Spindrift, Inc. stated, "People can argue about, talk about, impress people, and say they believe in science, but the no-no is to actually do science. That's what causes opposition. Why? Because human beings can believe in anything, but if you actually prove something, people will have to change, and they don't want to do that. Even people who believe in mental and spiritual forces become your enemy when your findings cross over from beliefs and circumstantial evidence to much, much stronger evidence. They run as fast as they can from the tests." The current address of Spindrift, Inc., is: Century Plaza Building, 100 W. Main, Suite 408, Lansdale PA 19446

DISINFORMATION IN SENTINEL

A notice in the February 14, 1994, *Christian Science Sentinel* from The Christian Science Board of Directors erroneously stated that the group, Members for the *Manual*, Inc., "feel the current organization of the

Church is inadequate and that a representative group of members should be established to monitor or oversee future activities of The Christian Science Board of Directors." In actual fact, Members for the *Manual*, Inc. seeks to "align the management of Church finances with the By-laws of the Manual and our Leader's legal Trusts" and to require the Director to give a "full financial accounting of...their compensation as Directors." For a copy of the actual complaint submitted, send \$5 to cover costs to: Members for the *Manual*, Inc., 25-13 Old Kings Highway N., Suite 245, Darien, CT 06820.

PRINCIPIA ENROLLMENT

The Pilot, the Principia College student newspaper, of March 4, 1994, reported, "A continuing falloff in student enrollment is prompting Principia to take positive steps to counter this downward trend... Principia had an attendance of 890 students in 1980. During the 1985-1986 school year, enrollment dipped into the 600's. During the 1991-1992 school year enrollment dropped into the 500's. Presently 528 students are enrolled at Principia, a slight decrease from Fall quarter's total of 545."

UPDATE ON SHEPARD CASE

The Winter 1994 *Banner* gave a digest from newspaper accounts regarding the case of Suzanne Shepard who "was expelled from her Kirkwood, Missouri, branch church." According to the *St. Louis Post-Dispatch* Mrs. Shepard was expelled because her public statements about Christian Science demonstrated "a departure from the radical reliance on spiritual methods as a basis for practicing Christian Science." According to sources familiar with the Kirkwood church, Mrs. Shepard initiated all the contacts with the press, and, according to these same sources, the accounts she gave were less than accurate. Mrs. Shepard stated that church members confronted her at the hospital where her daughter was being treated and urged her to take her home. Two or three members, in fact, accompanied her, but gave only moral support and sympathy and never made any such demands. She was never told "there would be no prayers for the 6-year old child." Mrs. Shepard was in the Missouri state capital recently with Rita Swan testifying for removal of the Christian Science exemption from state medical laws. Christian Scientists in the St. Louis area state that Mrs. Shepard had done some wonderful work as a practitioner and express sadness at the complete reversal of her former work.

ISLAMIC FUNDAMENTALISM

The Jerusalem Post of April 9, 1994, stated, "Seizing control of any 'democratic' Palestinian state within the State of Israel will be a number-one priority for Islamic fundamentalists worldwide." In the African country of Sudan, the government of Lt.-General Omar

al Bashir was "specifically accused [by the UN Human Rights Commission] of promoting ethnic cleansing of Christian and animist Africans, forcing Islamic laws on its non-Muslim citizens, and pressuring displaced Sudanese to convert to Islam in exchange for food." *Middle East Concern* is quoted as saying that "methods against Nubian Christian missionaries include summary, inverted crucifixion, sometimes over fire. Jubilee Campaign, a Christian human rights organization, has reported 'mounting evidence of the crucifixion of the male population of whole villages.' As one might expect, conversion to Islam brings an immediate cessation of torture, plus pardon for past 'crimes.' Food diverted from international relief supplies is often used as a further incentive."

The New York Times of February 6, 1994, reported the killing of Protestant Bishop Haik Hovsepian Mehr in Iran by security forces. "His crime was bringing international attention to the plight of a 60-year-old man who was sentenced to death for converting from Islam to Christianity, an act of apostasy punishable by execution under Islamic law."

EEOC AND RELIGIOUS HARASSMENT

Human Events in its February 18, 1994, issue stated, "The Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC) is shortly expected to decide on final approval of broad new guidelines to prosecute 'offensive' religious conduct on the job. Lawmakers and legal experts are fearful that the guidelines could have the effect of purging reasonable religious expression from the workplace...[Rep. Buck McKeon (R.-Calif.)] noted that major corporations were already scrambling to shield themselves from punishment under the new rules by developing policies to severely restrict religious expression by both management and workers. He cited, for instance, a new policy at a major corporation (which asked not to be identified) that reads: '...personnel should not possess nor display, in any manner on (company) premises any material which could be construed, by anyone to have religious...overtones, whether positive or negative.'"

THE GETHSEMANE FOUNDATION

As of January, 1994, The Gethsemane Foundation has relocated to St. Maries, Idaho, after operating for many years from Dallas, Texas. The foundation seeks to promote a greater public understanding of Christian Science and its Discoverer, Founder, and Leader, Mary Baker Eddy. Many monographs and books are currently available, and more are in the planning stage. The Gethsemane Foundation operates solely on public contributions for the furtherance of its work. Future publication of memoirs and reminiscences of early workers is dependent upon the donations of those who recognize the importance of preserving and disseminating

accurate information about Mrs. Eddy and Christian Science. The Gethsemane Foundation's new address is: P.O. Box 583, St. Maries, ID 83861. Telephone and Fax line: (208) 245-4087. Please call in evening on weekdays or from 8AM to 8PM on weekends, Pacific time.

THE MONITOR'S CONTINUING DECLINE

The January 20, 1994 Christian Science Monitor ran a guest commentary entitled "Will 'Indecency' Cops Retire?" The article stated that the Federal Communications Commission had fined "radio stations that carry the ramblings of 'shock jock' Howard Stern. Stern's is the most popular show wherever it is broadcast, but in one of those paradoxes that so abound in American censorship, the FCC decided that Stern's sophomoric bathroom humor and obsession with sexual prowess is 'patently offensive' according to 'community standards'... [T]here is no evidence that minors are 'harmed' by hearing 'indecent' programs."

As if to emphasize the Monitor's new infatuation with Mr. Stern, the March 25th issue ran a half page article with a large, color photograph: "On Wednesday, radio 'shock jock' Howard Stern announced he would seek the Libertarian Party's nomination [for governor of New York]. This is the Howard Stern better known for his raunchy 'bleeps' on radio than his budget proposals. This is the Howard Stern who's cost his radio station, WXRK-FM, \$1 million in fines from the Federal Communications Commission. And this is the Howard Stern whose book-signing forays resulted in lines so long they'd make a governor jealous." In response to a concerned reader on the decline in the *Monitor's* moral tone, the current Manager of the Christian Science Publishing Society stated, "The *Monitor* in Mrs. Eddy's day carried a number of things which are not carried today and which you would probably consider to be the 'moral low road,' including advertisements for hunting gear, dentists, and undergarments... [Mrs. Eddy] makes no provision for us to subscribe as long as we like how it looks, how it is produced or edited, or only if we agree with the content -- she just plainly asks every Christian Scientist to subscribe."

Mrs. Eddy writes, "When error confronts you, withhold not the rebuke or the explanation which destroys error. Never breathe an immoral atmosphere, unless in the attempt to purify it." (S&H 452: 12-15) The last line appears above the readers' platform in The Extension of The Mother Church.

EARTHQUAKE MESSAGE

The New York Times of January 31, 1994, "One overlooked victim of the Jan. 17th earthquake was America's pornography industry: the heart of it is in the San Fernando Valley, and the valley was at the heart of the quake...More than 80 percent of the nation's

pornographic videos come out of the valley, and most of those businesses are within five miles of the epicenter of the earthquake, the police said. "It's the porn capital of the world," said Jan LaRue, a lawyer with the National Law Center for Children and Families."

Mrs. Eddy writes, "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. (My. 162: 21-27)

CHURCH RESTORATION

The *San Diego* [CA] *Daily Transcript* of February 9, 1994, reported: "Renovation of the Irving Gill-designed First Church of Christ, Scientist at Second Avenue and Laurel Street has begun. The plans [are] to restore the original 1909 design... The exterior of the church, considered one of Gill's most significant building in San Diego, will be restored in detail. [T]here have been pleasant surprises, such as discovery of intact scriptures on walls, undamaged paving in the front arcades and stained glass windows buried within the walls

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CHRISTIAN SCIENCE AFTER 1910

By

Andrew W. Hartsook

This recently published book is a documented account of the decline of the Church after it passed from the leadership of Mary Baker Eddy to the control of The Christian Science Board of Directors. The book documents the basic causes that have led to the decline of this great movement -- causes that originated with the Directors in their relentless drive to exercise absolute control over Church members. Included in the book: Mrs. Eddy's Deed of Trust for the Publishing Society, a copy of her last will, a list of all present and past Board members, and a number of rare photographs.

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*Very truly
Mary Baker Eddy*

***** HIS BANNER OVER ME **THE BANNER** WAS LOVE *****

A NEWSLETTER FOR CHRISTIAN SCIENTISTS *** ANDREW W. HARTSOOK, EDITOR

VOLUME SEVEN / NUMBER FOUR

SUMMER 1994 ** ZANESVILLE, OHIO

THE MONITOR'S MORAL DECLINE

The *Christian Science Monitor* of May 16, 1994, continued to lead the way in the Christian Science Publishing Society's continuing plunge into decadence. By allowing the feature article of a Broadway play entitled "Sally Marr...and Her Escorts", the trustees and the editor once again reveal either a complete lack of oversight or else passive agreement with highly questionable material. The play reviewed in the *Monitor* is a one-woman show starring foul-mouthed Joan Rivers. She portrays the mother of the obscene 1960s comic, Lenny Bruce. The *Monitor* article says of Mr. Bruce, "He was one of the funniest, sharpest, most provocative comic minds of his generation. This witless show succeeds where all the misguided forces of oppression in this country failed; it has silenced Lenny Bruce." (Emphasis added) The *Academic American Encyclopedia* states, "Delivered in a staccato, aggressive fashion, his stand-up routines included vulgar jokes and sexually explicit observations about contemporary values, resulting in Bruce's 1964 criminal conviction for giving an obscene performance. His autobiography, *How to Talk Dirty and Influence People*, was published in 1965. He died on Aug. 3, 1966, of a drug overdose."

The next day, May 17th, the *Monitor* reviewed another Broadway play, "The Best Little Wh***house Goes Public." The *Monitor* reviewer states: "There was a cleverness about the first 'Wh***house' that is sadly missing here; everything seems put together in a cynical and slapdash fashion with a strong emphasis on glitz, spectacle, neon, and women in various states of undress."

The June 30th *Monitor* reviewed another play, "The Naked Truth" and stated: "A satirical farce that is chock-full of hilarious oneliners, the play presents the collision between...an upper-crust society matron and patron of the arts, and...the photographer who specializes in portraits of raw sexuality. Along the way, we encounter Nan's spaced-out daughter...; Nan's blue-blooded husband..., a presidential aspirant having an affair; and a nun with a nervous condition which prompts her to utter constant obscenities."

The *Monitor's* new style and image are being recognized and noted. *USA Today* of June 24, 1994, stated in an article about controversial art funded by U.S. taxpayers, "Even *The Christian Science Monitor* called him [Robert Mapplethorpe] 'one of the most original of America's younger photographers.'"

The *Christian Science Sentinel* of July 4, 1994, included an article praising the *Monitor*: "As Christians we pray to overcome evil in our own lives and in the world and strive to be alert to the pure thoughts that God, divine Mind, is always giving us... Daily reading of the *Monitor* complements daily study of the Bible and the Christian Science textbook, *Science and Health* by Mrs. Eddy." While this assertion might have been true in the past, it is hard to see how the contemporary *Monitor* could inspire such a statement.

NEW STAINED GLASS WINDOW

The *Church Center Bulletin* on June 2, 1994, stated: "It is with a great deal of joy and gratitude that we tell you about the installation of a new window in the Original Mother Church. It depicts the *Manual of the Mother Church* and fills what used to be an empty circle in a window in the North Gallery. It is located right next to the window with the Bible and *Science and Health with Key to the Scriptures*. The new window will be put in place before Annual Meeting."

"The *Manual of The Mother Church* was not published until September 1895, more than six months after the completion of the Original Edifice, and so was not available as a theme for a window. William Lyman Johnson, son of one of the first members of the board of Directors, recorded that two of the board members at the time told him that if they had the *Manual* in 1894, they would have depicted it in that window."

"It is in keeping with that remark (and a number of other changes made to the windows through the years) that we have accepted an anonymous donor's gift of this window commemorating the building of the Original Mother Church 100 years ago."

While the recorded statement of William Lyman Johnson is no doubt accurate, the first members of the Board of Directors had every opportunity to make a change in the window, but they did not do so perhaps after consulting Mrs. Eddy. Alice Orgain in her book, *As It Is*, offers an interpretation of the windows in question: "...Mrs. Eddy shows, in the last window of the upper level of The (little) Mother Church in the closed books with the thirteen scintillations of light surrounding them and in the twin window, the empty (to human sense) circle filled with the consciousness of the spiritual idea, supported by what we have read and studied, and most of all accepted into our own lives!" (p. 493)

The Christian Science Journal of July 1994, reveals that the bells in the cupola of the Extension will be removed as part of the renovation of the edifices.

The *Journal* of February 1985 noted that the original chimes in the tower of the Original Mother church "had been removed years ago." These chimes had been donated by Mrs. Eldora Gragg and her students in 1894 during the church's construction. Mrs. Gragg was the original Second Reader of The Mother Church.

Mrs. Eddy asks, "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!" (Mis. 119:27-31)

NEW EDITION OF SCIENCE AND HEALTH

A letter to branch churches from the Clerk of The Mother Church dated June 7, 1994, announced a new edition of the Christian Science textbook for possible sale in commercial bookstores. The letter was accompanied by a "preprint" of an article scheduled for the August *Journal*. The new edition will include a "one-page publisher's note" and a word index. Other changes are being made to the page layout as well. The marginal headings will appear separate from the body of the text in the left-hand margin. The article claims that this was Mrs. Eddy's original desire, but that the technology of her day did not allow for this format. The line numbers will appear in the right margin. It seems strange that in 19th Century line numbers could be printed separate from the text but that marginal notes could not be similarly accommodated.

EMPIRICAL RESEARCH

The Spring 1994 *Banner* commented on the appearance in the *Monitor* of a review of *Healing Words* by Larry Dossey on February 11, 1994. The book details scientific research which proves the power of prayer. The book was also significant because it prominently featured the work of two Christian Scientists, Bruce and John Klingbeil. The former had been a *Journal*-listed practitioner who also contributed twenty-four articles to the Christian Science periodicals and was interviewed on the "How Christian Science Heals" radio program in 1959. When the Directors learned of their empirical research and test procedures, Bruce Klingbeil was removed from the *Journal*, and action was initiated to excommunicate him from The Mother Church. The appearance of the book review of *Healing Words* in the *Monitor* was all the more puzzling because of Dr. Dossey's favorable treatment of the Klingbeils' work. Then the June 8th *Monitor* carried an interview with Virginia Harris, Chairman of the Christian Science Board of Directors, who listed as one of the Church's goals, "Gathering empirical evidence, in addition to anecdotal evidence, of the effectiveness of spiritual healing." This statement represented a 180-degree change in the Board's attitude towards empirical research. This interview was

followed two weeks later on June 24th with an advertisement of *Healing Words* in the *Monitor*. The advertisement incredibly included in bold type, "Not a substitute for medicine." It also stated, "Dossey shows how prayer complements, but doesn't take the place of good medicine." In an effort to repair the damage from this publishing blunder, a note "From the Publishers" appeared in the *Monitor* on July 5th: "In recent months, the *Monitor* has reviewed or published advertising for books on the role of prayer in healing of physical illnesses, including those of individuals also under some form of medical care. Such books deserve thoughtful consideration as a sign of increasing appreciation of spirituality in our times. But neither reviews of nor advertisement for such books are intended to signal that the Christian Science Church views scientific prayer treatment as anything less than the most effective means for healing mankind."

NINE MORE CHURCH CLOSINGS

According to a comparison of the April and July 1994 *Christian Science Journals*, the following churches and societies have closed: Inglewood, California; Ferndale, Michigan; Houghton Lake, Michigan; Lake Ozark, Missouri; Monongahela, Pennsylvania; Dallas (1st Church), Texas; Seattle (9th Church), Washington; White Salmon, Washington; and Evansville, Wisconsin. At the same time, three new churches/societies have formed: Santa Paula, California; Flager-Palm Coast, Florida; and Franklin, Massachusetts. Two churches which had disappeared from the *Journal* have reappeared: Beulah-Benzonia, Michigan, was listed closed in the Spring 1992 *Banner*; and Muskogee, Oklahoma, was listed as closed in the Spring 1994 *Banner*. It is not clear whether these latter two churches will join a group of seasonally operated branches or whether they will operate year-round. Since February 1987 when the count began, 289 churches/societies have closed and 29 have formed in the United States.

The Clerk of The Mother Church stated at the 1994 Annual Meeting, "Today there are over 200 'budding branches' -- in Europe, Latin America, Australia and New Zealand, Asia, Africa, and North America. Fifty of these have sprouted since last Annual Meeting." (July 1994 *C.S. Journal*, p. 45)

COPYRIGHT DEBT CLOSED

The law firm which handled the successful 1983-1987 effort to overturn the unconstitutional copyright extension on *Science and Health* no longer exists. A Christian Scientist who recently wrote to ask about the status of the unpaid debt was informed by Arnold P. Messing, the lawyer who conducted the case: "Csaplar & Bok and Gaston & Snow are long gone... Please consider the matter of the unpaid balance to be closed." It was understood that the unpaid balance was

approximately \$100,000. Over the years, many Christian Scientists had sent in contributions to help retire the debt.

UPDATE ON MILMINE BOOK

An undated letter from the University of Nebraska Press to reviewers of its 1993 reprint of the negative 1909 book by Georgine Milmine (mentioned in the Spring 1993 *Banner*) states: "Since the Bison re-issue of *The Life of Mary Baker G. Eddy and the History of Christian Science* went to press new materials have come to light which suggest that Ms. Eddy's enemies may have played a significant role in organizing the materials for the 'Milmine' biography. New information about Georgine Milmine, moreover, suggests that she would have welcomed biased opinion for its sensational and commercial value. The exact nature of Willa Cather's part in the compiling and writing of the biography remains, accordingly, a matter for further scholarly investigation."

ALLAN H. TAINI

In 1989 Allan and Helen Taini gave up a comfortable retirement on the West Coast to go to Boston. Driven by their concern for the future of The Mother Church, they relocated to the Boston area and established "The Eighty-Ninth Edition, Inc." Its purpose was to restore true obedience to the *Church Manual*, force the Directors to reveal their finances to the membership, and to restore the *Monitor* to its former status as a world-class newspaper. They hired accountants and lawyers to probe the secret finances and force an accounting to the members. Since they began their work, they managed to uncover many facts which were sent to branch churches and interested members around the country. These longtime church members were rewarded for their efforts with letters of excommunication from The Mother Church on May 15, 1991. The passing of Allan H. Taini was recently learned of and is deeply regretted by those who seek the restoration of Mrs. Eddy's design for her Church.

LETTER FROM MRS. EDDY PUBLISHED

A photographic copy of a handwritten letter signed by Mary Baker Eddy and dated November 20, 1910, was published in the July, 1994, issue of *The Individual Christian Scientist*: "Know all men by this protest that no change shall be made on the grounds that I own without my consent in writing." The properties she owned included her beloved Pleasant View in Concord, New Hampshire, and Chestnut Hill in Massachusetts. It is significant that she used the word "protest" and that the letter was followed a few years later by the total destruction of Pleasant View by the Directors of The Mother Church. (T.I.C.S., P.O. Box 128, Ahwahnee, California 93601. One year subscription [three issues] \$7.50)

SHORTWAVE SHORTCUT

Listeners to the Sunday evening rebroadcast of the morning service from The Mother Church on shortwave radio have noted that all of the natural pauses have been edited out of the service. A listener writes, "The whole program was bereft of the dignified pauses characteristic of the actual service at The Mother Church."

CHESTER C. MUTH, C.S.B.

Mr. Muth's last listing in *The Christian Science Journal* appeared in the December, 1993, issue. He was taught by Mrs. Victoria H. Sargent in her Primary Class of October, 1925, and was in the Normal Class of December, 1955. He was the author of *Victoria H. Sargent and Laura E. Sargent, A Biographical Sketch* which gives many insights and anecdotes about these pioneers in Christian Science upon whom Mrs. Eddy could rely for whatever duty she assigned them.

Before Victoria Sargent's passing in 1930, She enjoined Mr. Muth to preserve the correct view of Mrs. Eddy he had learned in her class. Many years later he wrote *Mary Baker Eddy, Her Spiritual Leadership*. He concluded and summarized the book with the following statements:

"1. That the prosperity and success of Christian Science (and therefore the salvation of all mankind from sin, disease, and death) is in a large measure related directly to a correct appraisal of Mrs. Eddy's place in the divine order of the Christ-Truth. This was her own conclusion stated in a letter to her student, Edward A. Kimball. ["For the world to understand me in my true light and life, would do more for our Cause than aught else could. This I learn from the fact that the enemy tries harder to hide these two things from the world than to win any other points."]

"2. That throughout her published writings Mrs. Eddy makes unreserved mention of her own recognition of her divine appointment as Jesus did of his.

"3. That Mrs. Eddy recognized her position as one of fulfilling Scriptural prophecy.

"4. That this recognition was verified by the sign of Christly healing and divine calling.

"5. That her spiritual leadership is and always will be in the vanguard of all human need and will therefore always maintain a practical relevancy to the things in the now.

"6. That it is the forever duty of Christian Scientists to observe and obey the Manual requirement of alertness in seeing Mrs. Eddy as God's chosen revelator of the second appearing of the Christ. (See editorial written by Ella W. Hoag for the *Christian Science Sentinel* of January 22, 1927 entitled "Our Duty to Our Leader.")

"7. That testimony by her contemporaries is consistent in recognition of her divine commission."

After Mr. Muth published his book and sent a copy

to The Mother Church in 1984, he was forbidden to distribute it by the then Chairman of The Christian Science Board of Directors.

NEGATIVE BIOGRAPHY

Garry Wills has written a new book entitled, *Certain Trumpets*. It consists of a series of biographical sketches of American "leaders." In the realm of religion, Mary Baker Eddy is his subject. It is a thoroughly negative treatment of Mrs. Eddy, her life, and accomplishments. Significantly, Mr. Wills lists Bates-Dittemore, Milmine, and Peel as his authoritative sources.

The almost universal misrepresentation of Mrs. Eddy in the last half of the Twentieth Century contrasts strikingly with the worldwide outpouring of appreciation in the press for her contributions at the time of her passing in 1910 as *Editorial Comments on the Life of Mary Baker Eddy* clearly documents. (Now titled *Tributes From the Press*.)

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ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

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By

Andrew W. Hartsook

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