

HISTORICAL SKETCH OF  
CHRISTIAN SCIENCE ORGANIZATION AT THE  
UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON

In the summer of 1917, several students from the University of Washington, two of whom had been members of Christian Science societies at other universities, met to discuss the question of starting such an organization at the University of Washington under Article 23, Section 8, of the Manual of The Mother Church. They obtained information and encouragement by writing to several organizations at colleges throughout the country and by talking to a young woman who was the secretary of the Smith College Christian Science Society. Correspondence with The Mother Church informed them that the students themselves should draw up a constitution and by-laws which should then be sent to the Board of Directors of The Mother Church for approval. 1917

Mr. Arthur Priest, then Dean of Men at the University of Washington, was favorable to the idea and the first official meeting was held at his home. Officers were elected as follows: Eleanor Hop-pock, president and reader; Florence Pettit, vice president; Rosamond Parsons, recording secretary, Merle Childs, corresponding secretary; Ernest Oertel, treasurer, and Ruth Bragdon and Adele Reeves, "other members of the Executive Committee." Until 1923, the president filled the office of reader. Appointments for the following committees were made: membership, distribution, library, notices, welcome and reception. After the constitution and by-laws were approved, the card of the new Christian Science Society of the University of Washington appeared in the Christian Science Journal in the spring of 1918. 1918

Having established the Organization, the new members eagerly sought to expand the scope of their activity. The first meetings were held at the homes of the members every second and fourth Sunday of the month at 3 P.M. After the end of the first quarter, meetings were changed to alternate Sundays. In January, 1918, the membership appointed Miss Parsons and Mr. Oertel to confer with Comptroller Herbert T. Condon concerning a meeting place on the campus. Mr. Condon later became Dean of Men and was always friendly in representing our position to the school authorities. The secretary was requested to write to Dr. Henry Suzzalo, President of the University, for permission to hold testimonial meetings week days on the campus. Unremitting metaphysical work had its results, for approval was gained and meetings after January, 1918, convened in one of the music rooms in the basement of Meany Hall on alternate Thursdays from 7:15 to 8 P.M.

Among the early activities on record was the immediate response to The Mother Church call for contributions to the Camp Welfare Fund. All donations were voluntary and were attended with expressions of gratitude for the privilege of helping in the world conflict. A short time later, contributions were also set aside for the Christian Science Benevolent Fund and the General Fund of The Mother Church. The Monitor Distribution Committee became active at this time, circulating the Monitor among professors and students on the campus, and presenting a subscription to the main library and to the law library. A lecture committee likewise began to function.

By the end of the first year (October, 1917, to June, 1918) the small Society had indeed proved its usefulness. New students were steadily attending and graduating students applied for alumni membership.

The initial funds of the Society amounted to \$50.00 (ten members donating \$5.00 each.) The financial statement at the end of the year showed \$28.05 as a balance on hand.

In July, 1918, the Society held its first summer school meeting. Since that time, summer school meetings have been a regular part of the Organization's program, inspiring those in school, teachers as well as regular students, and members of the Organization not in school.

As progress continued, the Society took definite steps to inform the campus of its activities. In 1919, notices were filed in the University of Washington Daily, the campus newspaper, inviting the University public to attend the meetings which were held then every Thursday evening at 7:30 P.M. Notices were also placed on the bulletin boards of Denny and Commerce Halls. This step at first required considerable demonstration to prevent the notices from being torn off or mutilated, but in later years opposition has largely disappeared.

The first lecture of the Society was delivered by Dr. John M. Tutt, C.S.B., on February 25, 1920, in Room 310, Denny Hall. Constant metaphysical work was needed to meet discouragement which would have robbed the members of this long-anticipated privilege. This work helped the members in being alert to protect all their activities. Frequently they would come for their regular weekly meetings and find the door locked, but never once has there been a failure to hold a meeting in the entire history of the Organization, the members having demonstrated that divine Love protects them, and each time a way was found. Moreover, meetings have always been held regardless of all-University social functions which might be scheduled on the same night.

In the latter part of 1920, the Society considered the establishment of two chapter houses similar to fraternity and sorority houses, but after corresponding with The Mother Church, the matter was dropped. It has been felt that social functions are not a part of the Organization's official program.

Among details of procedure which differed from those now in effect was the requirement that applicants for membership must be members of The Mother Church and of a branch church. This requirement was in effect up to 1922. It is also interesting to note that the Executive Committee selected the subject for the reading of each week, and for a time, readings from the desk were taken from all of Mrs. Eddy's writings, in addition to Science and Health and the Bible.

In the school year 1920-1921, two lectures were given by the Society, one by Bliss Knapp, November 23, 1920, at 4 P.M. in Bagley Hall, 1920-21 and the other by Professor Hermann Hering, March 3, 1921, at 12 noon in 233 Philosophy Hall. Mr. Knapp's lecture was paid for by the Trustees under the Will of Mary Baker Eddy, while Professor Hering's lecture was paid for by funds contributed to the Society. During this year, the Society also maintained an Accommodations Committee to help students find rooms and work. In 1921, a building fund was established for the purpose of eventually acquiring a building for the meetings. This plan was dropped 1921 BLG FUND stable for a time, however, and was not again resumed until 1928.

The next few years brought many new developments. In November, 1923, meetings were held Tuesday evenings at 7:30 but this was changed back to Thursday evening in May, 1924. The lecture by Judge Frederick C. Hill was given at Third Church instead of on the campus. In 1924, meetings were held in the Music Hall for a short time because of repair work taking place

in Meany Hall, then, in 1925, due to increased attendance, the meeting place was moved to a larger room, 310 Home Economics Hall. The membership record of this year showed that the Society had grown from ten to thirty active members, with one faculty member, Miss Helen Rhodes.

Although membership had increased considerably, there was a lack of Mother Church members to fill all offices and it was sometimes necessary to unite the offices of president and reader, and also recording secretary and corresponding secretary, until new members became available through special elections. The Organization has always been grateful, however, that when the time for election came, there were enough Mother Church members to carry on, so that there has never been a lapse of activity.

Since 1927, subjects for readings from the desk have been selected by the reader, rather than by the Executive Committee. A Peace and Harmony Committee was formed in 1928, consisting of four or five members, to work metaphysically on problems of the Society along the lines of growth, gratitude, and harmony.

Beginning in February 1928, meetings were temporarily held in the Sunday School rooms of Third Church, owing to rules prohibiting religious meetings on the campus. During Fall quarter of 1928, however, the weekly meetings were again permitted on the campus. Professor Hermann S. Hering, who delivered the lecture for this year, gave the members the first round table discussion with a lecturer. A complete set of Mrs. Eddy's works in morocco leather and a Bible were presented to the University of Washington library and a subscription to the Monitor to the Reference department. In 1929, the name Christian Science Society of the University of Washington was changed to Christian Science Organi-  
1927  
Name  
change

zation at the University of Washington, after approval had been gained from The Mother Church. At this time, the demonstration was made to purchase a piano for use at the meetings.

As a result of pressure exerted by a campus group of atheists, the University administration was forced, in the fall of 1930, to re-1930scind its permission to religious groups to meet on the campus, the basis for this action being a provision in the State Constitution prohibiting the use of state property for religious purposes. Dean H. T. Condon explained the situation to members of the Organization and invited our group to take the lead moving off the campus. They accepted his invitation. A few meetings were held in the Sunday School room of Third Church but then the meeting place was changed to Eagleson Hall, The YMCA Building.

in 1931, in addition to the regular work, special distribution work of Christian Science literature was carried on in cooperation with the Joint Literature Distribution Committee of Churches and Societies of Seattle.

The year 1932-1933 proved to be a period of alteration as well 1932as of important accomplishments. An article was added to the Constitution stating that "only members of The Mother Church shall elect officers of this Organization, amend the By-Laws, or vote on other questions of policy." A provision for two readers was also made at this time to alternately conduct the meetings. Contributions of two weekly meetings were sent to the Publishing House Fund, and in 1933, a Radio fund was established to assist First Church of Christ, Scientist, Seattle, in the broadcasts of Sunday evening services. The Organization also secured Articles of Incorporation, thus conforming to the state law of Washington

that all organizations must be incorporated in order to hold property and build thereon. This step completed, it was pointed out that metaphysical work on the part of each member would result in acquiring a building of our own. The Building Committee met regularly, and the Organization had a small building Fund which grew slowly but continually.

During the spring of 1933 the Literature Distribution Committee was very active. The committee sent copies of The Christian Science Monitor, with appropriate articles marked, to a number of University faculty members, following up with letters asking if subscriptions were desired. Another project was the supplying of Monitors and Sentinels to two U. S. Navy destroyers visiting the city.

A notable achievement in 1934 was the drawing up and adoption of 1934 a set of Rules and Regulations which supplemented the by-laws of the Organization, and outlined the duties and functions of all officers and committees in complete detail. Also, a set of readers' books, with metal markers, was purchased for the use of the readers.

On the Sunday afternoon before the fall quarter began in 1935, 1935 the first open house for new students interested in Christian Science was held. All students registering their religious preference as Christian Science were personally invited, and at the reception members and newcomers became acquainted. Questions about the Organization were answered, refreshments were served, and the occasion concluded with the singing of hymns.

Another innovation of this year was a round table discussion, following the year's first business meeting, between the Executive Committee and all new members, as well as older members interested. Here the structure, functions, purposes, and ideals of the Organization were ex-

plained. The new members welcomed this opportunity to get a clear and complete picture of the Organization from the very beginning of their membership, and to become better acquainted with their fellow members.

Beginning in the spring quarter of 1936, the regular weekly Thursday evening meetings were supplemented by a Tuesday afternoon meeting held twice a month at 4:15. The purpose of the additional meetings, at which the readings were the same as on the corresponding Thursday, was to meet the need of certain students unable to attend on Thursday evenings. The Tuesday meetings were discontinued two years later.

Alert activity on the part of the membership brought much progress during 1939-40 school year. For the first time in sixteen years a second lecture was given, by Miss Margaret Morrison. At the membership meeting at which the decision was made to give this lecture, particularly out of gratitude to the Trustees under the Will of Mary Baker Eddy for giving us one lecture a year for all the past years, it was found necessary to raise one hundred dollars in addition to the amount in the lecture fund. Unsigned pledges made by the members at this meeting, ranging from fifty cents to ten dollars, amounted to exactly one hundred dollars, and the actual contributions later exceeded this amount. Increased friendliness toward Christian Science on the campus was evidenced by publication of a short excerpt from the lecture in the college daily paper. Although advance publicity on lectures had been obtained in the paper in the past, this was the first time a lecture had been quoted.

New committee work was introduced at this time, by the establishment of Monitor Circulation and Advertising Information Committees, and by the appointment of an Assistant Christian Science Committee on Publication. Through the latter, copies of the Powell and Ramsey biographies



of Mrs. Eddy were given to the University library, supplementing Mrs. Eddy's complete works and the Wilbur biography already there, and a year's subscription to the Monitor was given to the University YMCA. Members reported to the Committee any textbook or lecture material attacking Christian Science.

Yet another achievement of the year 1936 was the organization of the alumni for the purpose of working toward a building to house the Organization. In December the Alumni Building Committee was formed. The first plan of financial support, undertaken immediately, was the pledging of the amount of sixty dollars each by a number of alumni, to be contributed to the Building Fund within five years. This committee was a semi-independent one; it elected its own officers and held periodic meetings of the alumni to stimulate interest and support for the project, both metaphysical and financial. One feature of the plan of development was that no building would be undertaken until adequate provision was made for its continued maintenance. This alumni activity gave new impetus to the building project. The need for a building was apparent as the Organization was not permitted on the campus and it was difficult to find fully suitable quarters for the meetings and other activities off the campus.

About this time the practice of holding round table discussions with the members of the Board of Lectureship who gave the annual lectures was discontinued. This event had been much anticipated and enjoyed by the members, but out of consideration for the heavy demands made on the lecturers it was thought wise to abandon the custom.

An outstanding activity of the year 1938 was a most successful Monitor exhibit. Just before this exhibit a certain lagging of interest

in committee work was apparent, members stating that they did not have time for it. Instead of accepting this suggestion, more work, in the form of preparation for this exhibit, was assigned, and the whole-hearted response dispelled the mesmeric belief. Originally scheduled to be held for three days late in May, the project received such an enthusiastic reception by University students and Seattle church members that at the special request of the YMCA officers who were proud to have the exhibit in their building, the exhibit was held for two more days.

*Monitor  
exhibit*

With a "progress" theme the dominating feature, the exhibit gave Organization members an opportunity to work in an activity both timely and helpful in class work. Students were appointed, according to their special interests and studies, to committees on Science and invention, home, advertising, sports, feature articles, current news, music, transportation, theatre, art, finance, novelties, education, and children's page. As examples of the resourcefulness displayed, the current news committee prepared a large map of the world with a novel presentation of Monitor clippings about each country. The home committee made a small cardboard model home, while the education committee featured a "little red schoolhouse". The theatre committee borrowed some puppets from the University Drama Department. All this gave atmosphere to the many posters displaying the varied features of the Monitor. Publicity was forthcoming by front page stories in the University Daily for two days, and by announcements in the local churches. Fruition of this project was a better acquaintance with the Organization on the part of the Christian Scientists of Seattle; also, the attention of many non-Scientists of the University was focused on the Monitor,

During this year it was found advisable to have a journalism

student who was a member of the Organization make personal contact with the editor of the Daily, and write all articles concerning Organization activities, such as those mentioned above. This not only insured accurate presentation, but guaranteed that no material would be overlooked.

In January of 1940 it was found necessary to hold the meetings in the Sunday School room of Third Church of Christ, Scientist, located near the campus. This was only a temporary arrangement, however, as the meetings were returned to Eagleson Hall, the YMCA building in April.

The school year 1939-40 was one in which the demonstration of giving two lectures in one year was again made. Mr. Frank Bell delivered the first in December, and Dr. John M. Tutt the second in April. Many testimonies of healing were given in the Organization meetings as a result of these lectures. During the Thanksgiving season of this year a basket of provisions was provided for a needy family recommended by the local Reading Room.

With the coming of World War II, many students were drafted into the armed services but activities continued. A number of the military personnel stationed at the University for training were active in the Organization. The giving of the annual lecture in 1942, by Dr. DeLange, was a most harmonious and joyous unfoldment, and an interesting result of the thoroughness of the preparatory work was that the induction into armed service of the student scheduled to introduce Dr. DeLange was delayed until the day following the lecture.

In 1943 the Organization sought permission to distribute Christian Science Monitors to the houses of all Navy men on the campus,

comprising four former women's residence halls and thirteen fraternity houses. A University ruling against such religious activities at a State institution was at first invoked but a happy solution was worked out when it was determined that the buildings taken over by the Navy were no longer under the jurisdiction of the University. The distribution of Monitors was carried out by Third Church as a legitimate part of their general distribution program.

In the summer quarter of 1943, a series of metaphysical meetings in the interest of building were held. These student meetings continued during the regular school year and in March 1944, an open meeting for students, alumni, and friends of the Organization was held to explore the attitude of the Field toward assisting in the project of purchasing property for an Organization building. Encouraged by the interest shown, the Building Committee proceeded to investigate all available property near the campus.

The year 1944-45 was a very busy one for the small group of students comprising the war-depleted membership of the Organization. A very desirable piece of property was located by the Building Committee. Realizing the need for continuity and experience in managing the building project, the student members of the Organization amended their by-laws to establish a Trusteeship, and appointed three alumni members (later increased to five) as Trustees to assume the necessary responsibilities. The former Alumni Building Committee was discontinued as a separate unit, and a unified Building Committee composed of five alumni and five student members was formed.

1944-45

With the approval of this committee, the Trustees began the

purchase in March, 1945, of the selected property located at 4305 - 3/45  
15th Avenue N. E., just across the street from the campus. Composed  
of two lots, with a large dwelling house on one, this plot was of  
adequate size for the future building, and most advantageously located.  
An initial down payment of three thousand dollars was made, leaving a  
balance of twelve thousand dollars. This mortgage was carried by a \$15,000  
seventy-five dollar monthly payment received from renting the house  
but extra payments on the principal were made as contributions accumu-  
lated.

Student members and alumni worked diligently during the spring  
and summer of 1945 to make the project known to Christian Scientists  
throughout the state. The Christian Science Board of Directors in  
Boston was kept informed, and gave their approval of all steps taken.  
Also encouraging was the fact that the Dedication and Building Committee  
of Churches of Christ, Scientist, Seattle, amended its rules to include  
the Organization as a regular participant, so that a member of our  
Executive Board now attends meetings of that Committee. In September  
1945, this Committee held an open meeting at Third Church at which the  
entire program was devoted to the Organization's building needs.

As the school year progressed, activity increased. Contribu-  
tions in growing amounts were received from friends and alumni all over  
the State so that in June, 1946, the Organization was able to report to  
the Field with much joy and gratitude that the last payment had been made.

The regular activities of the Organization during this year were  
greatly stimulated by the rapid progress of the building project. Much  
work was done toward getting more of the students who had registered

their religious preference as Christian Science to become active in the Organization. The annual lecture was given by Thomas E. Hurley, C.S.B., and a Christian Science Monitor exhibit was held at Eagleson H all in June, 1946, which was very successful.

In the spring of 1946, because of the unprecedented post-war increase in enrollment at the University, and the corresponding great growth in the Organization membership, it was decided to remodel and furnish the old house to make it a Christian Science student center which would be adequate for all Organization activities except the weekly testimonial meetings.

This work was done during the summer of 1946 at a cost of approximately \$5,000. With the exception of the basement, the entire house was redecorated and the exterior was repainted. The first floor was furnished to provide reading rooms and a lounge, with the kitchen and sun porch serving as a lunch room. The second floor was converted to a board room where the administrative work of the Organization could be handled, an additional study room, and a suite of rooms for the resident house mother. Three rooms on the third floor were furnished for use by five young men, Organization members, who would maintain the house and grounds in return for their lodging. As a part of this remodeling, the landscaping was greatly improved and a complete new lawn was planted. Many students, alumni, and friends gave of their time and labor through work parties.

The house was formally opened at the beginning of the fall quarter, 1946. Mrs. Grace Mann was engaged to fill the position of house mother and immediately entered into the spirit of the Organization's purpose to make the house a "campus home" for all Christian

1946

Scientists at the university. Several open houses for students and interested friends were held during the ensuing year.

Evidences of the usefulness of the house became apparent at once. It soon proved necessary to enlarge the reading room facilities to provide twelve sets of marked books for study of the weekly Lesson-Sermons, as well as all the other authorized literature. A greater feeling of unity within the Organization developed, while growing recognition of the Organization by other student groups was manifest. This was shown, for example, by the success of the Organization in obtaining over fifty subscriptions to The Christian Science Monitor among student organizations and faculty through the Publishing Society's offer of special rates to college people. And most important, the membership of the Organization increased steadily. By the fall of 1947, the attendance at the Thursday evening meetings, still held at the YMCA, ranged from one hundred to one hundred twenty-five students and faculty members. To accommodate this increased attendance it was necessary to obtain a larger room in the YMCA building.

In order to continue the policy of maintaining the Organization house by contributions of Organization members, as stated in correspondence with The Mother Church, it was found necessary in the winter quarter of 1948, to amend the by-laws to authorize the taking of a collection at the Thursday evening meetings. This new procedure was primarily for convenience. The previous informal method of having contributions placed in a box at the door as students left had proved unsatisfactory as the box could easily be overlooked.

1948

In January, 1948, an Overseas Welfare Committee was formed,

and continued to serve until June, 1948, for the purpose of supplying clothing to needy Christian Scientists in Germany. Used clothing, generously donated by members of the Organization and other students, was collected, repaired when necessary, and mailed to distribution centers in Germany, addresses of which were obtained from The Mother Church. Approximately thirty, twenty-two pound boxes were sent during this period. The shipments were all gratefully acknowledged by officials at the distribution centers.

The Organization House again remained open throughout the summer session of 1948, as it had been the previous summer, and many new students, enrolled at the University for special summer work, became acquainted with the House and the Thursday evening meetings. Attendance at the Thursday meetings during this summer session was remarkably high, necessitating the meetings being held in the YMCA instead of the Organization House, where they had been held the previous summer.

During the school year 1948-49, many steps were taken by the Invitations Committee to contact and arouse the hundreds of University students listing Christian Science as their religious preference, to an awareness of the activities of the Organization. The importance of asking these students to the testimonial meetings was stressed by having several Thursday evening meetings specifically designated for this purpose. Also, invitations were sent to these students to attend monthly social gatherings. "Firesides" were held throughout the year for the first time as a regular monthly occurrence at the House. At these gatherings, lively get-acquainted games were played and light refreshments served.



The Invitations Committee also wrote a letter to each Branch Church of Christ, Scientist, and Christian Science Society in Seattle, inviting upper-class Sunday School pupils and their parents and teachers to attend designated Thursday evening meetings and to visit the House afterwards. The responses to these invitations were enthusiastic, many new friends to the Organization were gained, and the Thursday evening meetings on these occasions were particularly inspiring.

Another new and important step was initiated in 1948. Between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m. of each school day, members of the Organization were designated to be at the House for periods of one hour each to act as a receptionist, greeting new members and answering the telephone. The member on duty was also to do metaphysical work on a specific topic assigned for a week, which appeared to be the particular need of the Organization.

An important amendment to the by-laws regarding membership was made in 1948. Whereas, previously, there had been two classes of members, active and alumni, the new amendment provides for three: active, associate, and alumni. It stipulates only members of The Mother Church may be active members, eligible to vote and hold office. The new classification, associate members, allows for members who are not members of The Mother Church. These associate members may serve on committees, but may neither vote nor hold office. This by-law change was effected through a desire of the members to conform more exactly to the provisions of Article 22, Section 6, of the Manual of The Mother Church by Mary Baker Eddy.

During Religious Emphasis Week, observed by the University in

February, 1949, authorized speakers from various religious denominations were invited to speak to classes, campus organizations, and living groups, desiring such speakers. The subject emphasized was "What is Man?" In five instances, where a preference was offered to classes, a Christian Science speaker was requested. One fraternity asked for a speaker to explain the subject according to Christian Science. All requests were filled by Christian Scientists authorized by the Committee on Publication for the State of Washington. Their talks were well received by the students and serious questions were asked, making possible further explanation of Christian Science.

The lecture in February, delivered by Mr. Earl McCloud, was a particularly joyous and fruitful occasion. The YMCA hall in which it was given was filled, and many new people were seen, both students and faculty members.

1949

The spring of 1949 brought another event of wide interest to Christian Science college organizations. Professor Ernest D. Engel, our faculty sponsor and one of our Trustees, was invited to speak in The Mother Church on College Organizations at the Tuesday evening "Progress in the Branches Meeting" during the Annual Meeting sessions. Circumstances leading up to this are rather significant.

Our House is quite different from the few other Organization houses on other campuses in that it has a more homelike atmosphere and hence serves the students in fuller and more intimate ways. Operating such a house brings problems of adjustment of the individual students' habits and wishes to the good of the whole group which are sometimes difficult to solve but are also very fruitful to both the student and the Organization. The Mother Church, being aware of the pioneering nature of our work, sent the Trustees a letter in February, 1949, with numerous questions as to the facilities of the House and how it was meeting the needs of the students and aiding the progress of the Organization. The letter was read at a special meeting following a regular Thursday evening meeting so that the members might express themselves in regard to their feeling about the House. Their enthusiastic response prompted the Trustees to suggest that they put their thoughts in writing so that the Board of Directors in Boston might have first-hand information.

The report which was sent to The Directors included much information - a reply from the Trustees, a letter from the Housemother, floor plans showing the use made of the various parts of the House, a picture of the House, many sincere and deeply moving statements from students describing how the House and the Organization had helped them,

and other information. This report, coupled with the splendid work done by the Organization in recent years in obtaining and furnishing the House, its fine showing in such things as obtaining a record number of student subscriptions to the Monitor under the Publishing Society's special offer to college people, and other progressive activities, prompted the Board of Directors in Boston to select our Organization to take part in the Annual Meeting to represent college organizations - the first time a college organization has so participated. Professor Engel's address was reported in the Monitor on June 9, 1949, and the full text is printed in the Sentinel of July 16, 1949. Many expressions of interest and appreciation were received from other Organizations.

Step by step during the period from 1949 to 1967 the Christian Science Organization at the University of Washington matured in its sense of the proper use of the building which had been purchased by members and friends in 1945. As purchased and as initially remodeled, the old three-story residence remained unsuited for the Org's weekly meetings. In the early 1950's the house was operated with distinct social emphasis rather than as a Christian Science religious center. Parents and friends formed a patrons' group which aided with house maintenance and stood ready to sponsor parties or dinners for the students. A recreation room was maintained in the building and the presence of the kitchen equipment encouraged the eating of lunches there. The executive board found itself concerned with paying for the milk deliveries and with setting the price to be charged for a cup of cocoa. Only in occasional summers were the Thursday testimony meetings held in the Org's building.

The school year 1954-1955 saw significant changes. The house-boy system was dropped and a "resident chaperone" replaced the house-mother. Upkeep of the house and yard was assumed by a House Maintenance Committee appointed from the membership. In the same year the membership voted unanimously to discontinue use of the basement recreation room as such. Milk delivery also ceased, but the kitchen continued to serve as a lunchroom while committee activities and study areas remained on the second floor. Another forward step in 1955 was discontinuance of monthly membership dues which had formerly seemed to be a necessary scheme for meeting operational expenses of the house.

These evidences of a trend toward use of the house for purposes more purely spiritual in nature <sup>were</sup> consummated just before the first Biennial College Organization meeting in Boston in 1955. The Org was represented

at that meeting and inspiration received undoubtedly accelerated further changes in the function of the house. Late in the following school year the first regular Thursday evening meeting was held in the Org's building. Plans to remodel the house for proper accomodation of the Thursday meetings were developed and in April, 1957, the long use of Eagleson Hall for testimony meetings was discontinued in favor of using the Org's house itself. This simplified meeting preparations and drew newcomers directly into the center of Org activity. Members of the Org had done the remodeling work themselves and their effective transformation of the main floor of the building admirably served the needs of the Org during its remaining occupancy of the structure. About 60 people could be conveniently seated for a meeting. In the later years it was not uncommon for the attendance to exceed somewhat the seating capacity of the room.

1956

In 1957, the top floor was sealed off to meet requirements of the fire department and the students made no further use of that area. Quarters for a chaperone continued to be maintained on the second floor. Reduction of duties caused the position of chaperone to lose its salaried status in 1962 and thereafter the chaperone paid a small monthly rental to the Org. The title of the position was changed to "Resident Adviser" in 1965.

Purely personal use of the building had reached a relatively low level by the 1960's. However, an expansion of one type of personal use was taking place through gradual increase in the amount of space devoted to the parking of students' cars. Finally, about 12 cars could be accomodated. Yet, parking accomodations were not out of phase with requirements established by city ordinance for new structures in the surrounding urban area.

In 1966-1967 the Org took another significant step toward becoming a true campus religious center for Christian Science. The membership voted to discourage the eating of lunches in the building and expanded the period of "quiet hours" from a portion of the forenoon to include both morning and afternoon. This action followed careful consideration of ideas received from Mr. Heard of the College Organization Division in Boston. The step was made in time to gain experience that would be helpful in forming plans for the functioning of the new Org building which was again under active consideration at that time.

The trend toward increased emphasis on the Org's mission as a spiritual activity forwarding the Christian Science movement was accompanied by several changes in the By-Laws. Closer compliance with the Manual of The Mother Church was attained when the requirements for graduate membership were reviewed in 1952, 1958, and 1962, and as a result more graduate members became active. Improved continuity in the conduct of Org business resulted from changes made in 1951 by which the terms of the elective officers were staggered, thus eliminating the complete replacement of an executive board at a single election. Voting procedure was also changed. By dropping the custom of reporting the number of votes cast on each ballot for individual candidates, members became more aware of the need for prayerful preparation for an election meeting.

The Rules and Regulations were also modified from time to time. One of the important years of change was 1955-1956 when Library, Information, Campus Literature and Bulletin Board committees were established. This action further clarified the Org's role in giving service both to its members and to the university community. Another important change occurred late in 1958 when the practice of taking up a collection during

the Thursday meeting was replaced with an invitation to place contributions "in a box near the door".

Since the beginning of the Biennial Meetings in Boston the Org has given its support to those meetings and in return has abundantly benefited. Several members attended the first meeting in 1955, 9 went to Boston in 1957, 16 in 1963, and even larger groups in 1965 and 1967. A Boston Travel Fund established in 1956-1957 through contributions of members and friends has aided some students to make the trip east. Some recipients have subsequently reimbursed the fund in part or in full for the financial assistance rendered to them. Participation in the program at Boston through displays and student papers has been the rule. The inspiration and enthusiasm which characterize the Biennial Meeting have been evident in subsequent Thursday evening meetings and in other ways. One or more students reporting to branch churches and to other groups of church members and friends has been a means of amplifying the fruitage from the Biennial Meetings. Direct use of ideas received at Boston has been made. For example, after hearing how another Org had prepared a literature distribution box, the students here undertook a similar project and from 1962 to 1967 the box was in impressively active use on the corner of the Org's property at N.E. 43rd and 15th Ave. N.E. Such a box became an important feature of the new building plan.

The Biennial Meetings were but one of the means by which the Org has realized increasing support from and a closer relation to The Mother Church and its Board of Directors in Boston. An early strengthening of communications between College Organizations and the field had taken place (1951-1952) when College Organization Information Committees



(COIC) were authorized. In some years the Org at the University of Washington has arranged a meeting of local COIC members to increase their familiarity with the Org's purpose and activities. Increased contacts within the movement have also come from visits by representatives of the College Organization Division in Boston and more recently from the Regional Representative in San Francisco. These workers have provided inspiration through individual conferences, through group workshops, and through meetings of church members and friends at local branch churches. The year 1964-1965 marked the appointment of a Local Assistant for western Washington. His availability was publicized at meetings and by poster and students began at once to make use of this avenue for advice and help in Christian Science.

Concurrent with the growth of communication among the Org, The Mother Church, and the branch churches was the continuation and increase of the Org's efforts to communicate with the campus community. There has been continued sponsorship of an annual Christian Science lecture and on one occasion, 1957, the lecture was given in the Student Union Building. In each of four years, 1960, 1961, 1963, and 1964 two lectures were sponsored by the Org. In 1951 the Org members voted to join the Campus Religious Council. Org members participated in committee meetings of the Council, held Council offices including that of president and took part in the Religious Emphasis Week sponsored by the CRC. The Org's faculty adviser met with ministers and others comprising the Religious Directors Association. This type of campus activity diminished following the Board of Regents' ruling that Religious Emphasis Week was in violation of the State Constitution. In more recent years incoming students have had an opportunity to learn about the Org through

its decision to appear in "Activities on Parade" at the start of Autumn Quarter. Occasional informative displays in a case in the Student Union Building have provided another means for reaching the student population.

A special opportunity for the Org to serve the community arose during the Seattle World's Fair in 1962. Numerous Org members signed up for duty in the Christian Science building at the Fair. Growth through serving was joyously reported by students who shared in this activity. A further benefit arose at the conclusion of the Fair when several items of furniture used at the exhibit were donated for use in the Org building.

Procurement of a proper meeting place for the Org has been given almost continuous attention for many years. Tentative building plans for a new structure on the Org's property on 15th N.E. were considered and reconsidered. However, for one reason or another building plans were repeatedly postponed as the Org moved through the 1950's and into the 1960's. A period of concerted action was precipitated by the decision of the Building Trustees in 1965 to accede to the University's persistent request for purchase of the Org's double lot. A provision in the sale allowed the Org to use the property through the summer of 1967. After careful preparations which included presentation of the proposed action to the head of the College Organization in Boston the Trustees began a building fund drive in March, 1966. Approval was received from Boston for the holding of as many as three open meetings a year directed toward offering a better understanding of the purpose of College Organizations, providing inspiration for the work and giving explanations of plans and progress to the field. An initial open meeting was held in September, 1966, in Fourth Church, Seattle,