

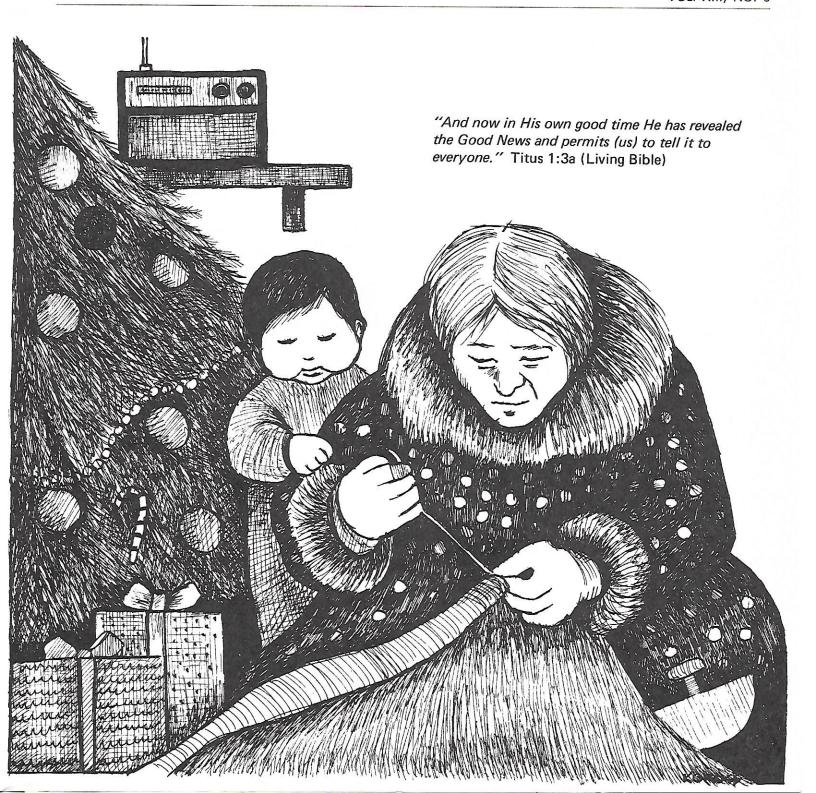
box 820

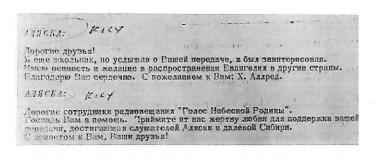
nome, alaska

99762

WINTER 1974 - 1975

VOL. XIII, NO. 3





Excerpts from Russian language letters.

RUSSIAN LANGUAGE RESPONSE

In past issues you have heard reports of oral testimonies of Siberian Eskimos and Russian sailors listening regularly to KICY. One of our Russian language program producers, the Russian Gospel Temple of San Francisco, has now notified us of at least two actual letters they have received from Russian language listeners who have heard their program on KICY. We are grateful to God for "black and white" evidence of the message being heard and appreciated. Here are excerpts from their original letters:

"Dear Friends, I am a student who has been very interested in listening to your radio program. I am very eager and full of desire to communicate the Gospel in other lands. With sincerity to you all." (A student in Siberia, probably of German background.)

"Dear laborers at the Radioprogram (VOICE OF THE HEAVENLY HOMELAND) may God help you. Please receive our offering of love to meet your financial commitments in your radio work toward the listeners of Alaska and Siberia. Greetings to you all." (A Christian Russian family presently living in Alaska.)

Another major producer of our Russian language programs is the Slavic Gospel Association of Chicago. The following excerpts from the article ENCOUNTERS IN THE LAND OF LENIN* by Peter Deyneka Jr., assistant general director of the Slavic Gospel Mission, give further evidence of the importance of our broadcasting the Good News in the Russian language:

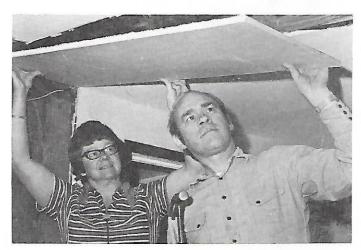
"When I travelled recently inside the Soviet Union . . I got acquainted with many Russian Orthodox Christians who listen regularly to our Russian Gospel broadcasts . . . Russian Bibles are almost impossible to find . . . Many Christians must resort to copying Scriptures by hand from a borrowed Bible or from the short wave gospel broadcasts. I held one of these painstakingly copied Bibles in my hands and realized the great blessings of 'Bibles of the Air' broadcasts which cross the Iron Curtain without hindrance. Meeting people from all corners of vast Russia, we found them inexpressibly grateful for the broadcasts and eager that we carry back their gratitude to Christians in the West who are producing and paying for the broadcasts . . . 'They are our lifeline . . . they are a gift of God from heaven,' Christians told us. 'We feel God invented radio just for us.' . . . In every congregation we visited we heard of people who had come to Christ through the Gospel broadcasts. In addition to meetings in registered churches, Russian Christians told me about 'thousands of house meetings' all across the Soviet Union. Some of these meetings began entirely through conversions of radio listeners."

*Reprinted by permission from the May issue of MOODY MONTHLY. Copyright 1974, Moody Bible Institute.

PROGRAMMING . . .

The June Midnight Sun Fesival is a big annual event in Nome. As usual KICY was very much involved with a float in the parade and also live coverage of the Mother Goose parade, baby contest, marathon foot race and the raft race down Nome River. State and local elections were covered this fall, as in the past, in cooperation with other Alaska Broadcasting System stations. KICY provided an opportunity for area citizens to call in questions to the local candidates on our weekly talk show, SPEAK OUT. Political sales brought in added revenue but also involved a lot of extra work.

We now have 15 minutes each evening of Bible reading in the Russian language. The Slavic Gospel Association has provided us with readings in the books of Romans and Matthew. We hope this will be extended to other books in the very near future. We are also in the process of obtaining good Russian music to supplement our Russian language programming. With the advent of satellite communications reaching Nome in the near future, we expect great possibilities of increasing KICY's news capabilities and cutting down considerably in daily production time and expense in some areas.



Darlene and Ken Wilder remodeling volunteer staff house.

THIS 'N THAT . . .

This year's **summer construction** included the addition of an outside basement staircase to one of the staff homes, insulating the attic of another, and the big project of a 12'x25' addition and remodeling of our volunteer staff home. As is typical in Nome, construction was hampered by delayed arrival of materials. However, a plus in our favor was sunny weather to give us many good outdoor building days.

With the help of the Detroit Covenant Women, we have purchased **carpeting** for the oldest part of the studio building. Besides providing us with necessary new flooring, it also means greater ease in upkeep and better acoustics. Another addition at the station is a new **speaker** for the air monitor in the main control room.

Two important projects were accomplished this summer because of people who donated their time making possible big savings for KICY. Mr. and Mrs. Vernal Peterson came to us from the Fresno, CA, Covenant Church. Mr. Peterson did a complete **overhaul** of our 30KW Caterpillar stand-by generator at the transmitter site. Mr. and Mrs. Lee Reiswig from the Martha Lake Covenant Church in Seattle came to **audit** the books for

KICY as well as those of the Evangelical Covenant Church of Alaska and Covenant High School in Unalakleet. We are grateful to God for sending us experienced personnel to accomplish two big jobs at KICY so efficiently.

Because of the willingness of a group of dedicated Covenant Women in Willmar, MN, the KICY **CALL LETTER** is now being mailed to you directly from Willmar where it is printed. As a result there will be a considerable savings in time and money. With this new arrangement, eliminating the mailing back and forth of the finished **CALL LETTER**, the time from our writing the issue to your receiving it will be cut in half.

OUR STAFF...

We praise God again for a large number of volunteers who came to help at KICY making possible summer vacations for the regular staff. Houseparents for the crew were Art and Hazel Larson of First Covenant in Minneapolis. Hazel spent most of her time baking tasty morsels, while Art kept busy heading up the construction projects. Working under Art were John Brunn of First Covenant in Seattle and Craig Bergstrom from Redeemer Covenant in Minneapolis. John stayed on at KICY until mid September and was able to get some on-the-air radio experience as well. Craig is now attending Bethel College in St. Paul. Three volunteers worked directly with the operation of KICY - John Hjelm of Broadway Covenant in Rockford; David Hanson of Beulah Covenant in Turlock, CA; and Doneetsa Anderson of Excelsior Covenant in Minneapolis. John and Dave had regular on-the-air shifts. Doneetsa worked in the news department and filled in on-the-air when someone had a day off. John is currently a senior at North Park College, majoring in physical education and psychology. Dave is in his sophomore year at NPC. The summer was unusually sunny, making possible many picnic outings on the beach and in the hills.

Many of the regular staff took vacations this summer. Dave and Kathy DeVries with Jane and Amy spent two months in Minnesota. Stan, Beth, Jennie and Peter Summers made several stops on their vacation trip to Chicago, including Expo '74 in Spokane. Both Kathy and Beth were thrilled to be a part of the Covenant Women's Triennial in Minneapolis in August. Chip Swanson took a three week vacation in September with a trip to his family home in Minnesota and a short visit to two coastal villages to the south of Nome . . . Bethel and Scammon Bay. Short-term secretary-receptionist Chris Chamberlain



Craig Bergstrom and John Brunn working on construction project.



John Hjelm, Doneetsa Anderson and Dave Hanson in main control room.

spent the first week of her vacation as cook at the regional Covenant Bible camp at Iron Creek. During the remainder of the month of July she traveled along the coast of Northwest Alaska by small plane and boat visiting friends at several small fish camps and the village of Elim.

Other staff travel over the past few months included a complimentary trip to Fairbanks on Wien Air Alaska's 50th Anniversary flight by News Director Jim Engwall. Station Manager Ralph Fondell traveled to Seattle for the Arctic Broadcasting Association Board of Directors semi-annual meeting in August. Jim, Stan, Chip and Ralph attended the Alaska Broadcasters Convention in Fairbanks in June.

In His perfect plan, God sent us a winter volunteer who is a well qualified handyman, able to finish the summer project of remodeling the volunteer staff house (including installing the furnace and baseboard heating). Ken Wilder and his family (wife Darlene, and daughters Gayle, 12, and Becky, 6) have come to us from Stillman Valley, IL. Ken substituted as chief engineer in Chip's absence and is also doing on-the-air work. Darlene, in addition to assisting in the remodeling work, has already begun helping in the KICY record library and is directing the children's SUNSHINE CLUB program.

When it became evident that we would be short-handed for on-the-air help this winter, summer helper Doneetsa Anderson volunteered to extend her three months at KICY on through the winter. We are grateful for her willingness to work evenings so that regular staff men are able to spend more time with their families. Doneetsa plans to return to Minnesota in May where she will be a senior in journalism at the University of Minnesota. Part of her financial support through the winter months will be given by her home church in Excelsior, MN. However, if you would like to help with a gift or monthly check toward her room, board and stipend, please contact the Home Mission Department in Chicago (5101 N. Francisco Ave., 60625).

At this writing, Gertrude Fondell is on her way to Washington, D.C. to attend a Seminar on Alcoholism and Drug Abuse sponsored by the General Federation of Women's Clubs of which she is a state officer. Enroute she is visiting her children in Fairbanks, AK, and Chicago, and her 87 year old father, Rev. Nath Franklin, in Minnesota. Stopping in Anchorage on her return, Gert will take the test to get her Third Class FCC License. She continues to host the popular Gert's Corner, morning variety show on KICY.

OUR LISTENERS . . .

From Nome . . .

"Thank you so much for KICY. It is a big help to me and my wife. Big help too for the people of Savoonga."

From White Mountain . . .

"I'd like to thank you all for giving us help airing information whenever we need you to. We post notices, alright, but I'm afraid not everyone reads them. However, you can be quite sure the messages are heard by all."

From Nome . . .

"I really appreciate the effort KICY makes to bring sports to the area, both news reporting and games."

From Mekoryuk . . .

"I like all of your programs, especially the Gospel Programs like Billy Graham, Eskimo hour and others."

From Nome . . .

"We thank you for all of your help and cooperation
. . . Your station is so helpful in getting returns and election information out to all of Northwest Alaska listeners."

OUR DONORS . . .

From Iowa . . .

"Our Community Bible School chose your station for our offering project this year . . . We pray this can be used to keep Christian programs and music on the air there."

From Minnesota . . .

"I've never written before, or heard the broadcast, but I wanted to send this to let you know I'm interested in your ministry."

From California . . .

"For some time our Adult Sunday School class has had a project going. Receipts from our Coffee Hour go to some definite missionary project . . . your work has been selected as the recipient."

From New York . . .

"Enclosed is . . . to assist you in your work."

From one of our program producers . . .

". . . we know you depend on financial help from interested friends. We trust (our small gift) will help you maintain the great work God has given you to do . . . We pray that God will multiply it by leading many others to contribute."



Gertrude Fondell leaving for Washington, D.C.



David Saccheus of Elim, Alaska.

WHAT KICY MEANS TO ME ...

This is the second in a series of articles by our listeners telling of KICY's place in their lives.

"Gospel messages and songs are so much appreciated, including Eskimo Hour programs from the various villages.

"One of the outstanding reports the rural area needs is the Weather report, the hunters and others need to know the weather before they go out hunting or fishing. Many people in this area would have lost their equipment during the summer or any other time if it had not been for the KICY Weather reports.

"Also many or much appreciation for the spiritual programs you aired each day of the week. May God's rich blessing be upon each one of you in the station."

David Saccheus of Elim, Alaska

MANAGER'S MIKE . . .

Many hours were spent this summer in evaluating our performance during the past year of broadcasting and interviewing community leaders and members of the general public to learn what they feel are the most serious community needs or problems. We then are obligated to program to help meet these needs where possible. All of this is required by the Federal Communications Commission as part of the relicensing procedure, which at present takes place every three years.

In the survey of community problems we learned that 62% of a total of 222 people interviewed cited alcoholism or alcohol-related problems as one of the main problems in the Nome area, and 30% of the respondents said lack of recreational activities and facilities was also a major problem. Local authorities say that 95 to 100% of all crimes committed in this area have alcohol involvement.

Our policy states that no alcoholic beverage advertising is acceptable, and we screen all of our music to eliminate references to drinking. Often our Christian programs, about 25% of our schedule, speak out against the use of alcohol and discuss drinking problems. However, with God's help, we plan to do even more to combat this problem, recognized by a major segment of the local population.

Ralph V. Fondell



Clockwise, starting at the top: Fondells, Engwalls, Wilders, Criders (Nome Covenant Church Pastor), Doneetsa Anderson, Chris Chamberlain, Chip Swanson, DeVries and Summers.

PAUSE FOR PRAYER . . .

PRAISE . . .

- . . . That our application for relicensing is complete. We trust God for its approval.
- . . . That we have received letters in response to our Russian language programs.
- . . . That we were able to add to and remodel one of our staff homes.
- . . . For the safe travel of the staff families who were on vacation this past summer.
- . . . That extra volunteers were able to come to audit our books and give our generator a complete overhaul.
- . . . That God has supplied us with the volunteers which were needed for this winter.

PETITION . . .

- . . . That we will soon be able to obtain more Russian language Bible reading programs.
- . . . For continued wisdom in obtaining fringe area reception reports.
- . . . That an Eskimo will volunteer to help at KICY. Funds are now being raised.
- . . . That the lives of many children will be touched through the ministry of "Sunshine Club".
- . . . For health and safety of our staff through the winter.
- . . . That we will be able to get the needed volunteers for next summer (radio and maintenance).

The KICY Call Letter is published periodically by the Staff of Radio Station KICY, Nome, Alaska. KICY was built and staffed by the Evangelical Covenant Church of America, and is operated under a subsidiary corporation, the Arctic Broadcasting Association, in cooperation with the American Lutheran Church, the Alaska District Council of the Assemblies of God and the Alaska Yearly Meeting of Friends. Correspondence may be addressed to: KICY, Box 820, Nome, Alaska 99762, or to The Evangelical Covenant Church of America, Department of Home Mission, Rev. Paul W. Anderson, Executive Secretary, 5101 North Francisco Avenue, Chicago, Illinois 60625.



Hazel and Art Larson.

ARCTIC BROADCASTING ASSOCIATION

P. O. Box 820 Nome, Alaska 99762

Address Correction Requested