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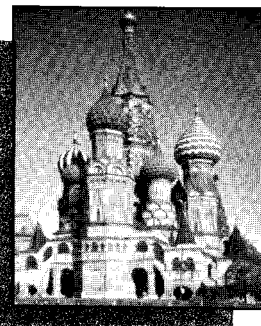


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EDITORIAL  
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## Adventures in Russia— Adventist Education's Newest Frontier

Today I returned from Adventism's newest frontier in education. The past 11 days have been filled with the exciting events of the first Adventist Teacher's Seminar in Russia and the challenges of completing the final arrangements for an elementary school in the city of Moscow. The pioneer spirit of Adventist education has truly been rekindled.

However, my heart is full of both happiness and anxiety. Happiness for the many wonderful teachers who attended the seminar. On Sunday evening we distributed a draft copy of Ellen G. White's *Education*, which had been prepared in the Russian language. Within minutes individuals gathered in small groups to present prayers of thanks for this precious gift. On Monday, a teacher from Siberia approached me to tell her experience. She said that she had been impressed by the Lord to purchase a train ticket to Moscow, a five-day journey. Upon arriving there, she made contact with the seminary in Zaoski, where she was given the address of the teacher's seminar. Her heart was full of happiness for His providential leading.

On Wednesday, a commitment meeting was held as an integral part of the seminar. The love of God's people flowed forth with voice and song until late into the evening. The visiting teachers from Latvia shared a national hymn that told of their love for their homeland and their Lord. The song had been banned since the Russian occupation and those found singing this song had been severely punished. Now they were able to share it with us at this

special time. Words cannot adequately describe the emotion and excitement that accompanied their performance. God is indeed leading in this great nation and the surrounding republics.

My heart is also full of anxiety. The workers face many challenges that we cannot easily understand. Simply purchasing food is an activity of major proportion. The morning I was to leave, my host and I visited five stores before finding one with a loaf of bread for sale. Providing for the basic necessities of life is a monumental task. I spent several hours with various committees finalizing the documents for the establishment and registration of the elementary school in Moscow. The challenge of using simple parliamentary procedures to operate a committee is new to these people. Much of what is accomplished today will need to be reworked tomorrow. After decades of oppression and dictatorial government, the new freedoms present opportunities that are yet to be tested and proved.

As Adventist education begins to put down roots within the Commonwealth of Independent States, we must pray two prayers of faith. The first must be for the growth of our education system in an orderly and proper manner under the leadership of Spirit-inspired leaders, and the second must be for the people of these nations, that they may have the vision of Samuel, as he began the schools of the prophets, and the wisdom of Solomon, as they adventure into the frontier of Adventist education—for now and for eternity.—R.E.G.