

News from the Blue Ridge

Claire & Lorin Cranford
October 2001





Family Events:

Health problems continue to dominate my life these days unfortunately. The year 2001 will go down for me as the year of struggles. Hopefully the

year has been more productive for you. Here is a brief update on the health situation at the beginning of October:

Blood Pressure. The uncovering of high blood pressure in May is what triggered the string of events since then. The extensive testing done all summer failed to determine the source of the problem but eliminated over 98% of typical sources. Most likely, heredity plays an important role in causing this. The combination of medicines that Dr. Eusebio, my cardiologist at the Sanger Clinic in Shelby, found at the end of July -- Triamt/ HCTZ and Labetalol -- have continued to keep my blood pressure in the upper level of the normal range, now averaging 139 over 85. This is somewhat higher than in August and September, due in part -- I suspect -- to all the other stuff that has happened. I see the doctor again in January to reevaluate this. The side effects from the medicine have been manageable.

Prostate. This has been the zinger so far. Through massive testing done in August and September, fairly extensive cancer was discovered in the prostate gland, but thankfully contained to the gland and not spread to other parts of my body. The \$1,800 hormone shot given me on Sept. 20 is designed to stop the cancer's growth as well as to reduce the gland down over a three month period to where specific treatment measures can be taken. I see my urologist, Dr. Blackley in Shelby, in early December in order to determine whether we're ready to decide on treatment, which most likely will be surgery to remove the gland and the cancer about Christmas time. The side effects from this shot have become rather challenging. They are very similar to those most women going through the menopause experience -- hot flashes, vacillating emotions etc. I sure understand these challenges better than ever before!

Blood Sugar. As a result of extensive testing completed last week, I have been diagnosed with diabetes. During the next three months we are going to work on getting the blood sugar under control through a combination of dieting, oral medication, and weight reduction. Next week Claire and I will begin working with the diabetes center at Cleveland Hospital in Shelby in order to better understand and gain help with the life-style changes this necessitates. If this approach is successful, then the diabetes can be managed with diet and oral medicine; if not, then I will begin taking insulin shots in January. The diabetes seems to be the source of the enormous pain in my feet. Unfortunately, this pain will be with me at some level the rest of my life, thus limiting my ability to walk and

University Happenings:

With the health problems, teaching this semester has been something of a special challenge. But so far I've been able to take care of the basic teaching obligations without extensive interruption of the classes. The appx. 150 students I have this semester have been extremely supportive and understanding of the situation. For that I'm very grateful and thankful. I have the impression that all this has helped the prayer life of several individuals, including my own. Colleagues across the campus have also been wonderfully supportive. This has again made me very proud to be a part of a Christian university that values community as well as academics. Gardner-Webb isn't perfect, but it is a good place to live and work.

One technology aspect implemented this summer that has proven very helpful is the creation of numerous forms that the students complete online while working at their computers in the dorms etc. Requests for make-up tests, excused absences etc. are all handled now through the internet at http://cranfordville.com/GWUclass.htm. Check it out in the Request Forms section. It is saving me tons of time in scheduling etc.

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stand up.

Arms and Hands. I'm still in the process of testing to try to find the source of the growing problem with tremors, especially in my right hand and arm, and with considerable pain in my shoulders and limited use of my arms. A second MRI is scheduled next week to nail this one down. The testing done thus far by the neurologist, Dr. Klein, has strongly indicated the presence of severe arthritis in my shoulders and upper spine. He suspects the arthritis has migrated down the spine as well. This very likely is behind the tremors. At this point I don't know the prognosis for this problem. Hopefully this will be treatable so that the pain and the tremors will be manageable. Thus far the medicines we've tried haven't done much to address the problems or relieve the pain.

Teeth. On Nov. 2, Dr. Keith Cox in Spartanburg will surgically remove a tooth that has been causing severe pain over the past few weeks. As he characterized it, this will be a bump in the road in comparison to the other problems. I will be glad, however, to be free of one source of pain and discomfort. Then, Dr. Weathers, our family dentist here, will replace this tooth once the gum has healed.

My goal is to be on top of most all these problems by the end of the year so that 2002 can become a year of full activity and enjoyment of life without the excruciating pain that 2001 has brought. I continue to need your prayers with all these challenges.

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I have been working really long hours the first couple of months of school, but now things are beginning to get better. It's been hard, but I

still love my new job. I don't stop for a moment during the day (typical for a teacher anyway), and the days fly by. Between my classes kids are always coming by to check out more books. I am learning so much about our books and it is fascinating. I am just getting the hang of things better and now it is time to get set up for the book fair, which means additional work. Hopefully I will be able to get some volunteers. I have had so many interesting names as a teacher and now some new ones such as – Mrs. Crawford, Cranberry, Crawfish and now added, Hey Library or Library Lady, and even "Hey what's your name?" What popularity!

One of the hardest parts of my long hours is not being there for Lorin much. He has been having such a difficult time and has felt so horrible. I am not dealing with his health problems very well myself. It has not just been one serious illness, but one after another. It's very hard for me after going through a long illness with my first husband, Don. It was so devastating when he died and now this is extremely difficult to deal with. Watching Lorin suffering now is painful for me and I find it difficult to talk to anyone about it. I have not told any of my fellow teachers at work, because I just can't talk about it. I have been through that before too. I realize this is not the best way to deal with this situation, but it's the only way I can cope now myself. Pray for Lorin.

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tant patterns, in large part because of the Catholic Church's continued dependency upon the Latin Vulgate. Ronald Knox produced an English translation of the Vulgate in 1955, and a team of Catholic scholars produced the New American Bible in 1970 which was revised in 1985. The Second Vatican Council in the early 1960s gave enormous impetus to Bible translation among Roman Catholics.

A very unique translation project largely coming out of Vatican Council II was the **Jerusalem Bible** translations in the various languages around the world. The English version was released by a team of mostly British Catholic scholars in 1966 after the French translation in 1961. Protestant scholars have been included in various translation teams. One of my favorite German translations is the Jerusalemer Bibel, the German version of this project.

A much more massive team approach to Bible translation underlies the New International Version which was first released in 1978 and has undergone subsequent revisions. Scholars from every English speaking country and from both Protestant and Catholic traditions were involved in the project that spanned almost a decade before its initial release.

A revision of the King James Version, the New King James **Version**, was released in 1982 and attempted to update the out of date language of the KJV. For Jewish people, the **Tanakh**, was released in 1985 and brings the Hebrew scriptures of the OT into modern American English.

Next month we'll attempt to make sense out of all these translations, as well as deal with how translations are produced.



Lorin's Musings:

In this third segment on Bible translation, we will take a look at Bible translation during the twentieth century. For a

listing of these see http://cranfordville.com/P-Trans-L.htm. From the time of the American Standard Version in 1901 until the Revised Standard Version in 1946 not much activity took place. The world was occupied with fighting two world wars. This first half of the twentieth century gave rise to numerous individually produced translations of either the entire Bible or of the New Testament. Two of the more influential translations during this time are the Moffatt translation and the Goodspeed translation, both released in 1935. Two others including only the New Testament were the Twentieth Century New Testament (1902) and the New Testament in Modern Speech by R.F. Weymouth (1937). The goal of these translations was to render the Bible text into a more readable, less wooden English expression than characterized the KJV and the ASV. A trend was building to create English translations that could be more readily understood by a larger segment of the reading public.

The release of the **Revised Standard Version** (RSV), first of the New Testament in 1946 and then of the complete Bible in 1952, marks a significant turning point in Bible translation for the English speaking world. It is in reality a revision of the 1901 ASV and suffers from some of the woodenness that typified earlier English translations. But for the first time this translation makes extensive use of the massive amount of archaeological discoveries of hundreds of manuscripts of the New Testament discovered from the late 1800s. The developing methods of evaluating these manuscripts were taken into consideration as well. In reality, it was based upon the most accurate Greek text of the New Testament and the Hebrew text of the Old Testament in existence at the midpoint of the twentieth century. It suffered from heavy criticism when first released largely because of mistakes in marketing that tried to pit it against the King James Version. But, over the past 50 years it has proven its enduring value and is one of the most widely used English translations still. The next revision of it would come in 1990 with the release of the New Revised Standard Version (NRSV).

The tradition of individually produced translations continued in the second half of the twentieth century with the Bible in Basic English (1949) by S.H. Hooke using a very limited English vocabulary to achieve greater readability. The Baptist New Testament scholar Charles B. Williams released a translation of the New Testament in 1950 that has been widely used in the U.S. In England the work of J.B. Phillips (1958) and in American English the Living Bible by Ken Taylor (1971) achieved wide spread popularity and use. As is normal, the individually produced translation will reflect the denominational background of the translator. The Phillips translation reflects British Anglican views and the Living Bible the very conservative Bible Church tradition founded by Scofield. The Living Bible shifted significantly in 1996 when its revision, the New Living Translation, was released by a team of evangelical scholars incorporating trans-denominational perspectives and content oriented methods of translating.

The Roman Catholic tradition of English language Bible translation has developed much slower than the above Protes-

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