

**TO: GENERAL COUNCIL OF URANTIA BROTHERHOOD**  
**FROM: DAVID N. ELDERS, CHAIRMAN--CHARTER COMMITTEE**  
**SUBJ: COMMITTEE REPORT FOR PERIOD AUGUST, 1979-AUGUST, 1980**

June 14, 1980

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The purpose of this report is to apprise the members of the General Council of the activities of the Charter Committee of Urantia Brotherhood during the last twelve months.

1. Guiding Philosophy: In addition to the Constitutional definition of the duties of the Charter Committee, and in conjunction with our work this past year on revising the Standards of Admissions for Urantia Societies (see below), we have developed an informal philosophy which guides the work of our committee. This philosophy is as follows:

To allow the use of the most objective tool we have at our disposal, time, to deepen the commitments of those persons requesting Society status to insure the stability of the new Society (and, as a consequence, Urantia Brotherhood).

To insure that there is a full understanding of the responsibilities of Society status in relation to Urantia Foundation and its responsibilities, and Urantia Brotherhood and its constituent parts.

To provide for the progressive comprehension of the difference between the organizational aspects of Urantia Brotherhood and its evolutionary responsibilities, and the Brotherhood of Man which exists far beyond the scope of Urantia Brotherhood and which is manifest, at least organizationally, in study group activity. Whereas there must be guidelines and assumption of material responsibilities for Society status to insure just and organized interaction, there must remain no requirements for study group interaction save for the desire to reach the Father.

Standards of Admissions for Urantia Societies: At the May meeting

of the Executive Committee, our revised Standards were presented for final approval. These Standards, a copy of which you were sent, reflect the work of our committee during the last two years, finally brought to fruition at this May meeting. Any group applying for Society status from this date onward, will fall under these new standards(see possible

Society applications below).

Denver Society Installation: During February, 1980, The Rocky Mountain Urantia Society of Denver was formally installed (Charter Number 15, although the 13th. active Society) in that city. The installation was attended by all but one of our committee-Mary Lou Hales, Irene Sprunger, Ticky Harries, David Renn, and David Elders( Lucille Kulieke couldn't make it).

Possible Society Applications: Currently there are quite a number of study groups considering the pros and cons of beginning the process toward Society status. Each of these groups have been in contact with this committee, at least on an inquiry basis:

Tampa Bay area study groups Toronto, Canada study groups Fernando Valley--Ventura County study groups Orange County study groups Hawaiian study groups Paris, France and Bogota, Colombia groups have requested preliminary information

5. Future Projects: During this coming year, in addition to attending to the work of serving those groups wishing to proceed with formal application, we plan to review the written materials we currently send out to prospective groups and rewrite it if appropriate. Additionally, we will be putting together, in conjunction with other committees, the orientation program which has now become an official part of the Standards of Admissions requirements.

This then is a summary of the progress we have made during the past year. We would like to be as responsive as possible to the members of the General Council and would encourage comments and communication concerning any phase of our activities and responsibilities.

Respectfully submitted,

David Elders, Chairman---Charter Committee

On behalf of committee members: Mary Lou Hales, Ticky Harries, Lucille Kulieke, David Renn, and Irene Sprunger

**1980 VICE PRESIDENT'S REPORT TO  
THE GENERAL COUNCIL OF  
THE URANTIA BROTHERHOOD**

E. L. Christensen

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My work as Vice President of the URANTIA Brotherhood continues to be a busy although easy task from a duty standpoint, as I have had very few heavy duties assigned to me this past year. However, I've kept busy with the daily mail, as one of my duties requires that I read all incoming and outgoing mail. Of course, John and Marian answer the Brotherhood's mail. I keep busy enough taking care of the Foundation mail even with some very excellent office assistants such as Mr. Scott Forsythe and Mr. Mike Painter, plus Miss Kay Michaels.

Many miscellaneous items of interest to all the staff are discussed monthly with our President, Mr. John Hales. We all enjoy these get-togethers where we can freely express our opinions, ask advice and receive our President's counsel.

Life at headquarters of the URANTIA Brotherhood always remains of great interest as we have many telephone calls and visitors from far-off places in the U.S.A., as well as from foreign countries. It is a great place to be.

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## **1980 Report of The Publications Committee of The URANTIA Brotherhood Barbara Kulieke**

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The Publications Committee set its goals for 1980 at our January 20 meeting. We set goals in each of the areas in which we work, so the following report of progress on our goals serves as a report of all of our committee work, listed in order of the priorities we set.

URANTIA Brotherhood Bulletin. (1) Publish a special 25th anniversary issue- -accomplished by the winter/spring issue of 1980. (2) Maintain the current quarterly schedule and format cost effectively accomplished to date. The mailing list is now over 2600. The Bulletin continues to receive positive response and costs have been kept to 25c per copy. We once again have some services provided at no cost to the Brotherhood. Writing is of course volunteer, and photographs have been donated free of charge; in addition, typesetting, layout, and post-up are done free of charge and we receive half-price rates on half-tones for our photographs thanks to URANTIA Book readers who have been able to obtain these services.

2. Slide-tape History of the URANTIA Movement. We voted at our November 1979 meeting to ask the Executive Committee for approval to work on the project, which was granted with the understanding that the slide-tape itself would be submitted for approval. The first "draft" of the slide tape was shown to the Executive Committee in April, and some feedback was supplied at that time. Extensive further feedback was given at the May meeting and a revised version of the 40 minute slide-tape was shown at the July meeting. Final text editing is underway, and if the Executive Committee approves it, the slide-tape will be shown at the Domestic Extension Committee Workshop August 8.

Cooperation and Coordination Among URANTIA Publications. In December we received a request from URANTIA Foundation for our response to a letter they planned to send to editors of URANTIA movement publications; we responded with some recommendations and one of our goals for the year is to continue this liaison with URANTIA Foundation. Carolyn Kendall compiled some excerpts from the policies we presented at the Fraternal Relations Workshop last summer; we plan to continue work on policies and procedures.

Translation of Brotherhood Publications. In 1979 we did some preliminary work concerning French translation of the Bulletin and Journal . We elected to suspend this work for the time being and look first at pamphlets and form letters which may need translating. An inventory has been made and decisions about translating will be made at upcoming meetings. We will continue with work on French and Spanish editions of the Bulletin and Journal.

5. Scrapbooks for Headquarters. To make further use of photographs and material we receive for the Bulletin, we would like to coordinate with Domestic Extension and International Fellowship in making some of these materials available for viewing by visitors to headquarters.

6. 1981 Conference Papers. We are coordinating with the conference committees about any papers which may be published.

I would like to thank the members of my committee--Lisa Carr Renn, Nancy Grimsley, Mark Kulieke, Mike Painter, and Lillian Wallin for their work and especially for their many fine ideas. We welcome suggestions from all of you.

Barbara Kulieke, Chairman  
Publications Committee

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## **1980 REPORT OF THE SECRETARY TO THE GENERAL COUNCIL**

Katherine Harries

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August 9, 1980

Each month I send out notices of the meetings of the General Council and take the minutes of the meeting of the Board of Directors of URANTIA Brotherhood Corporation. I also send out letters each year to obtain data for the official membership census, i.e. members of the societies and the members-at-large. A running total is kept and brought up to date at the end of each calendar year. When we approve a new member-at-large I write a letter to the new member and send one of our official membership cards.

Since we had a Triennial Delegate Assembly last year, there was some extra typing to be done relating to motions made at the meeting.

There is a small amount of filing to be done, and from time to time, a "special" project to undertake. As we grow we find new things to add to our list of things to be done.

Katharine J. Harries, Secretary  
URANTIA Brotherhood

4-26-80

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**Annual Report of The International Fellowship Committee to  
The General Council of Urantia Brotherhood**

Martin Myers  
August 9, 1980

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The International Fellowship Committee has enjoyed an active and stimulating year.

The thrust of the Committee's work this year has been toward broadening participation in the Committees deliberations. Three advisors, two from California and one from Quebec, were asked to participate in the Committee's discussions. The effort towards greater participation was further actualized through lengthy discussions, face-to-face and by telephone, which led to the structuring of a Summer Workshop format which would give every participant a chance to examine in depth important international matters and an opportunity to contribute insights and direction in dealing with the problems associated with the internationalization of the spread of the teachings of The Urantia Book.

In addition to the foregoing goal, the Committee discussed the goals of helping to realize translations, of achieving the placement of Books in libraries internationally, and the fostering of Study Groups in other lands.

As for translations, while it was agreed that the technical and legal aspects of translations are in the hands of Urantia Foundation, it was felt that the Committee should assist the Foundation by developing human resources in the countries involved, prior to initiating translations. This could be done by helping to develop a stable, vigorous group which would be supportive of our organizations preceding a translation effort.

As for placement of Urantia Books in libraries throughout the world, the Committee has begun to share in the process of educating readers of The Urantia Book as to the importance of making the Book available in international libraries-especially bi-lingual libraries. To this end, the Committee has asked Mrs. Julia K. Fenderson to make an appropriate presentation to the 1980 Summer Workshop attendees. In addition, the Committee is co-sponsoring an article with Mrs. Fenderson in a future Urantia Brotherhood Bulletin dealing with this important topic.

Regarding the formation of study groups, the Committee wishes to facilitate the formation of stable and vigorous study groups throughout the world, working with the Charter Committee to assist interested, established groups in the process of developing into

Urantia Societies. The methods of actualizing this goal will be the subject of future committee discussions.

Upon referral by the Executive Committee to the International Fellowship Committee, our group considered the question of how best to structure an arrangement for receiving and holding funds for translations. The Committee's recommendation is that Urantia Foundation should have full control of translation funds, including discretion to allocate money to an appropriate agency of the Brotherhood for fund-raising purposes for translations. The Committee further felt that every effort should be made, consistent with the respective donor's wishes however, to preserve the Trustees' discretion as to the use of the funds for a particular translation or otherwise, both for the economy of administration and for the efficient use of translation funds.

The International Fellowship Committee is moving more and more towards an effective participation in the internationalization of the spread of the teachings of The Urantia Book, and is gaining increasingly in experience in this intriguing and challenging adventure of presenting new truth to mankind. We look forward to those challenges and even to those inevitable disillusionments which are inextricably a part of meeting the practical problems associated with epochal revelation.

We welcome your suggestions and support.

International Fellowship Committee Urantia Brotherhood

Martin W. Myers Chairman

**President's Report to the  
Annual Meeting of the General Council of  
Urantia Brotherhood**

John Hales  
August 9, 1980

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This past year has seen many interesting developments in the evolutionary growth of Urantia Brotherhood and its activities. I wish to convey to you these activities which I hope will generate questions and discussion. We are in agreement that the primary task of Urantia Brotherhood is to encourage the evolutionary spread of the Urantia teachings on a person to person basis without great fanfare. We have set our goal as establishing thousands upon thousands of informal Urantia Book study groups.

I think we also know that the organization that governs best is the one that governs least and coordinates most -at least this is the ideal. One ongoing problem in the work of an organization is the need to constantly be aware of means and ends -what it is we do that serves the organization and that which serves the dissemination of the Urantia teachings. Admittedly at times and in certain situations, the two areas blend, so that means and ends seem as one. It is my hope that the General Council will provide the needed perspective on such matters, since those of us on the Executive Committee may lose some perspective. As our first President, William Sadler, Jr., stated so clearly, "the structure of the Brotherhood is to the spiritual experiences of its members, as the river banks are to a river; it is true that no river can be had without its banks -but neither should the banks be confused with the flowing river. The Brotherhood is designed to promote the book, and the book is designed to bring God and man closer to each other." This being the year of our 25th anniversary, I feel Bill's concerns stated many years ago are still important to-keep in mind as we deliberate over the business before this Council -- the highest governing body of Urantia Brotherhood.

The year began last August with what I believe will be considered to be a significant event in the short history of the Brotherhood -- the General Council that contained 8 of a possible 12 new Councilors elected by the Triennial Delegate Assembly. These Councilors come from a wide geographic distribution and I think reflect the growth of our organization and the concomitant desire of Society members to more directly participate in the decision making process of the Brotherhood. This is not to suggest that everyone was necessarily happy with the outcome of seemingly rapid change. In time, such change would have occurred. It happened sooner than any of us anticipated.

It has been a privilege to work with the Executive Committee this year. I know the new members do not wish to be singled out for special recognition, but, three new members

have traveled a great distance at their own expense to faithfully attend our monthly meetings. There are also three new members to complete the committee changes. These changes have brought with it new challenges and problems to be considered -- as would be expected. Our meetings have tended to become longer, a full Saturday, with a great diversity of opinion being expressed on many issues. It is true that we were not created to think alike.

With members of the Executive Committee living at great distance from Chicago, I feel there is the need for the Council to pass an amendment allowing the Committee the option to meet less often than monthly, but at least quarterly. I would think that as more societies are chartered the Council's composition may become even more geographically dispersed -- the group from which the Executive Committee members must be elected. To serve on the Executive Committee will require great financial commitment from the individual. Ways will have to be developed to deal with this problem, since the ability to "pay your way" should not be the primary reason for electing a person to the Executive Committee. Possible solutions include use of Brotherhood funds and/or more direct financial commitment of societies. It is questionable whether large sums of funds donated to a non-profit organization should be spent on travel.

Finances are beginning to play a more important role in our activities. Perhaps it is the current recession or the stage of growth the Brotherhood has reached that forces us to look closely at the material resources available. Our predecessors did well in conserving the funds received by the Brotherhood. Now there is growing pressure for funding as programs are developed. We have only two sources of income, contributions and commissions from the sale of The Urantia Book. For a variety of reasons book sales are about half of what they were one year ago, therefore cutting income. Contributions remain at about the same level. Inflation continues to insure that less costs more -- something we all experience. This is not an optimistic picture when considering needs for printings, translations, operating expenses, and funds for other projects. Creative ideas and techniques will be needed to insure adequate income as well as the exercise of wisdom in the best use of such funds.

I believe we all felt the issue of the Licensing Agreement was behind us. However, Urantia Foundation informed the Brotherhood that they have learned that a group in Houston, Texas, has registered with the state as the First Urantia Society of Houston, Inc. This is not the chartered First Urantia Society of Houston. Suit was filed by Urantia Foundation on June 27, 1980, against First Urantia Society of Houston, Inc., a recently incorporated Texas not-for-profit corporation, Kermit Laurent, W. Allen Brazell, Sue Via Brazell, Cathy Fusco, and John Charles, for the infringement of the Foundation's mark Urantia. On Wednesday, July 16, 1980, a hearing was held in the courtroom of Judge McDonald in Houston on the Foundation's motion for a preliminary injunction to enjoin First Urantia Society of Houston, Inc., from using the trademark Urantia in its name, or otherwise, pending a trial on the merits.

The defendant corporation took the position that it (and not First Urantia Society of Houston) was the Society which had been chartered by Urantia Brotherhood and had the right to use the word Urantia in its name, despite the Brotherhood's denial that such was the fact. The Court, without making any ruling regarding the mark itself, viewed the matter as an internal controversy, and for that reason denied the preliminary injunction.

Urantia Foundation has requested an early trial on the merits of the case which will probably not be until next February or March. In the meantime, Urantia Foundation and Urantia Brotherhood will cooperate towards the settlement of the internal controversy to the extent it is possible. This topic is on the agenda for today's discussion.

I do not mean to overly emphasize problem areas (some might feel they have not been emphasized enough) for there are many positive activities that continue to thrive. Gatherings, mini-meetings, regional conferences for study and fellowship continue to increase in frequency and geographic location. The vast majority of planners of such meetings are most cooperative in helping to meet the requirements of Urantia Foundation in use of copyrighted material when they fully understand the need for protection and long range help it will be for The Urantia Book.

In the immediate future, along with our continued emphasis on study group activity, we must keep in focus the international spread of the Urantia teachings. I believe this growth will take place faster than our efforts to complete translations of the book. We will have to be skillful in attracting all such sincere students to our mutual work and truly become an International Brotherhood. This will require great quantities of tact and patience.

It has been said that Urantia Brotherhood, like a ship, has left the harbor of its early beginnings to sail upon the uncharted high seas towards an as yet undisclosed destiny. As individuals we know our destiny. As an organization, we do not. My report is an attempt, like that of a navigator, to tell you, based on the best calculations possible, where we have been, with some indication of course corrections that may be needed. You, as the highest governing body, must discuss these things in addition to other considerations you may have in recommending adjustments to our course. I welcome this opportunity for mutual discussion of our future.

John W. Hales President

Report to the General Council of the  
Urantia Brotherhood  
Domestic Extension Committee  
Harry McMullan, Chairman  
June 11, 1980

This report is written in accordance with the request by the 1979 General Council that each committee state its goals and what progress has been made toward realizing them. The best guide to what our goals should be is given by the Urantia Brotherhood constitution, as follows:

"The Domestic Extension Committee shall promote knowledge of The Urantia Book and its teachings among the inhabitants of the United States; it shall encourage the dissemination of The Urantia Book, promote the organization of Urantia Societies throughout the United States; it shall assist interested persons in forming such societies; and it shall assist and co-operate with any Urantia Society in furthering the purposes of such society and the purposes of Urantia Brotherhood.

To analyze this more closely, it says that the Domestic Extension Committee

- 1) shall promote knowledge of The Urantia Book among the inhabitants of the United States;
- 2) shall promote its teachings among the inhabitants of the United States;
- 3) shall encourage the dissemination of The Urantia Book;
- 4) shall promote the organization of Urantia Societies throughout the United States;
- 5) shall assist interested persons in forming such societies;
- 6) shall assist and co-operate with any Urantia Society in furthering the purposes of such society and the purposes of the Urantia Brotherhood.

With respect to #1, so long as it is contrary to Urantia Foundation policy to "promote" The Urantia Book, I don't know how our committee can fulfill that goal, other than along the lines of what is set forth under #3.

I am at a loss to know how we may go about achieving the #2 goal as a committee of the Urantia Brotherhood. #2 seems more appropriately furthered by the lives we live as individuals, and by separate organizations such as the Family of God Foundation,

#3 is where we should be able to make progress. I take #3 to refer to the physical dissemination of The Urantia Book. The traditional method for our committee to accomplish this has been through the mechanism of Gift Book Fund - a fund which is supported by direct gifts from members and by Brotherhood general funds. (In fact, at the present time the committee doesn't really have a function here. The Executive Committee gives approval for any gift books to be sent and the headquarters staff sends them out.) The fund purchases books from the Foundation at the same price as bookstores do and then donates them to libraries and other public institutions on request. I would like us to set as a goal that no public library, college or high school library or prison library be without at least one Urantia Book. Our committee has discussed a plan whereby interested Urantia Brotherhood members would be asked to contact libraries personally, first to attempt to induce them to purchase a book, and failing that, to see if they would accept one from us as a gift. We have a list of over 100 individuals that we feel sure would be happy to help with this project, and, at this time, are limited only by a lack of funding. I feel that \$100,000 per year would be a respectable amount to invest in such a program. This would enable us to place a little under 5000 books per year. It strains me to think of any program which the Brotherhood could undertake which could yield so much lasting good for

the progress of the kingdom of heaven, for the U.S.A., and for the Urantia Brotherhood. At the present time, however, such funding is just not available, and until it is generated, an expansion of the Gift Book Fund program along the lines suggested here must wait.

The literal wording of #4 and #5 encompasses what is generally regarded to be the domain of the Charter Committee. If we construe the wording to mean "study groups" rather than "societies", our committee could have an important part to play without serious overlap between committee jurisdiction. We have submitted a plan to the Executive Committee which involves our committee acting as a clearinghouse of information between societies and other groups, primarily for presentations which could be passed around. Aside from this there is much that should be done to help study groups feel more a part of our brotherhood.

Lastly, #6 seems more in the domain of the Fraternal Relations Committee. I do not have any specific ideas about how we may carry this one out; our committee has not been asked for any such assistance, but certainly stands ready if asked.

Another committee project during the past year was the submittal to the Executive Committee of a questionnaire designed to locate study groups. This project was suggested by John Hales for the purpose of discovering who is where, so that individuals who call or write headquarters may be referred to a group, if one exists nearby. It is thought that such a questionnaire should be sent yearly, since many study groups come and go, or change their schedules so as to render previous information obsolete,

The committee also is sponsoring one day of the summer conference. I believe that this is the first time the Domestic Extension Committee has been such a sponsor. The theme was lifted directly from an outline which Tom Kendall, the previous committee chairman, had worked on for several years, and which he intended to be a one-week Leadership Training program. Time limitations forced its compression into six hours, which we tried to achieve with minimum violence to Tom's original idea.

Respectfully submitted,

Harry McMullan, Chairman