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## **1981 Report of the Publications Committee of URANTIA Brotherhood**

Barbara Kulieke

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The following is a report on the past year's activities for each area in which we work.

### URANTIA Brotherhood Bulletin

Our goal continues to be to publish quarterly issues of the Bulletin during the quarters in which they are due. For the past year or so, we have had problems with timeliness, often resulting in combining two issues. Because feedback from the field indicates that readers want to receive issues quarterly, and because of the nature of the news we cover, we are striving to solve the problems we have had. At our May 31 meeting, we analyzed and discussed our problem, which is that it has taken too much time to review final copy submitted by the editors. Delays in one issue cause delays in another, and delays in the review process interfere with other aspects of production. We feel we can work this out with the people involved, and starting with the Summer 1981 issue, we feel you can expect to receive regular quarterly issues on time.

The Bulletin is growing in numbers of contributors, respondents, and types of articles. We have well established procedures for writing, editing, proofreading, photographs, typesetting, layout, paste-up, and printing. All of these services except printing are provided free of charge, at considerable savings to the Brotherhood. Mark Kulieke has been heavily involved in day-to-day details of publishing the Bulletin since 1979; at our April 25 meeting we made him managing editor of the Bulletin since he really had been functioning in that capacity. The mailing list has grown to 3,000, but we have continued our policy of keeping costs to no more than 25c per copy, including postage.

### Slide-tape History of the URANTIA Movement

Our goal for the past year has been to carry out the procedure for showing the slide-tape established by the Executive Committee last fall. The Executive Committee determined that upon written request to John Hales, President, the slide-tape could be shown by the Publications Committee Chairman at URANTIA society meetings and URANTIA workshops and conferences. In the past year, the slide-tape has been shown six times; 387 evaluation forms have been filled out by viewers. Ratings have averaged in the "excellent" category at every showing and thus for the showings collectively. Of the 387 evaluations, four were against making the slide-tape available for URANTIA Book readers; the rest were in favor of it. Many articulated the value the history had for them and viewers' comments and suggestions have been tremendously helpful to our thinking about revisions. So far, only changes in the slides have been made; the text has not been changed, nor the original tape recording. We know of some

changes we would like to make, and requested funds for this purpose, and to work toward distribution, but our budget request was denied.

French-speaking readers in Canada and France, and Spanish-speaking readers have asked if the history could be translated in French and Spanish. These requests were presented to the Executive Committee last fall, but the Executive Committee felt we were not ready to translate it at that time. Several people have asked if a written transcript could be made available, but the Executive Committee has not discussed this. Two more showings have been scheduled for the fall and some informal requests received for additional future showings. We will continue to monitor viewers' responses to the history. About 700 people have seen the history, but not all filled out evaluation forms.

### Cooperation -and Coordination Among URANTIA Movement Publications.

Editors and staffs of URANTIA movement publications were invited to a publications "Idea and Information Exchange" at the 1981 General Conference. Similar to one of workshops we held at Lake Geneva, this meeting provided many ideas for publications committee work in the coming year. We have already worked out procedures for one of the requests the publishers have--to list periodicals and how to subscribe to them from time to time in the Bulletin. Our first list will appear in the Summer 1981 Bulletin. At Snowmass, the group mentioned some other activities which we will be working on after the committee has a chance to get together and go over the results of the Snowmass meeting. Publishers shared news of their activities, too, including some new activities.

The Publications Committee will be sponsoring workshops in the summer of 1982, along with other Brotherhood committees. We will continue to work on written statements of philosophy, policy, and procedures which we have been evolving over the past few years. We considered an idea from the URANTIA Societies' Conclave that a newsletter for URANTIA societies might be started (Lisa Renn reviewed the idea in a paper which served as a basis for discussion), and referred the idea back to society presidents (informally at Snowmass). One or more of the presidents may bring the idea to the attention of the Domestic Extension Committee. This year society presidents were invited to our workshop, and several attended. Nancy Grimsley will be working on some of the projects in these areas now that she has more time available.

### Translation of Brotherhood Publications

We continue to coordinate with the International Fellowship Committee concerning translation of pamphlets and handouts about the organizations. Mike Painter is preparing, a proposal considering publication of French and Spanish editions of the Bulletin and Journal; our earlier work toward this end resulted in the conclusion that translation of quarterly or semi-annual issues is not feasible at this time. We are, however, considering annual French and Spanish editions of the Bulletin which would compile and digest salient material from our publications. When John and Duane went to France, one of the recommendations of the group there is to make Brotherhood periodicals available in French.

## 1981 Conference Papers

This year the Publications Committee arrived at a policy we may continue to use concerning post-conference publications. We decided to let the speakers be responsible for reproduction and distribution of their own papers after obtaining permission from URANTIA Foundation. Demand for copies of presentations varies considerably. This approach keeps us from spending much, perhaps unnecessary, time and energy producing post-conference publications and it allows presenters maximum freedom in the way that they present such material. A letter stating this policy was sent to 1981 General Conference speakers.

## Publications Committee Report

### Archives and Scrapbooks for Headquarters

The committee is still aware of the need to collect and organize photographs and other material which has been a by-product of our activities. However, with a tight budget and the need to work on other projects, this has not been a priority project. Much material exists in private collections we have become familiar with, and eventually we will make progress in this area.

### Media Relations

Our goal is to coordinate with other committees concerning media relations. Thus far the movement has been amazingly fortunate in maintaining a low media profile. We think that this will not continue by accident. The need to determine wise methods of handling media inquiries into our activities and to train leadership in such methods is just now upon us. The possibility of 1,000 attendees at the 1981 General Conference brought this topic to mind and we hope to facilitate much thinking on this topic so that the movement will be prepared when media contact becomes more frequent.

Our committee invites your comments and suggestions. All written material concerning our work (such as history evaluations) are available to any General Councilor upon request.

Respectfully submitted,

Barbara Kulieke, Chairman Publications Committee

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## **President's 1981 Report To The General Council of Urantia Brotherhood**

John Hales  
July 31, 1981

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This past year's activity has involved Urantia Brotherhood in many new experiences as an organization and, of course, the individuals that make up the organization. As indicated by the reports sent to you earlier, committee work has progressed as we enter our twenty-sixth year of existence. You can also observe that various committees are in the process of growth and change, partly due to new committee members, but also as a result of striving to more closely define the work to be done in keeping with the aims and purposes of each committee. I expect this growth process to continue, as it must, if we wish to continue to keep our organizations vital in carrying on its work. Increasingly there are differing points of view expressed as how best to solve problems facing the Brotherhood. This is of benefit since it provides a diversity of thinking from which solutions can be reached. This will continue to require cooperation and compromise. It also requires all of us to appreciate time as the sure tool of evolution.

### **Summary Of Brotherhood Activity**

As indicated by the word "summary," what follows is my selective judgment as to the topics to be included. I apologize for any omissions of contributions by individuals or groups that I have failed to acknowledge. It is not done with any intent to diminish their importance. I have tried to select those events or subjects that seem to have had or continue to have the greatest impact upon Brotherhood activities. Some of the subjects I mention are more fully covered in the committee reports.

In December 1980, the Judicial Committee, at the request of the Executive Committee, held a hearing in Houston, Texas, to determine once and for all who the Brotherhood considers to be the true First Urantia Society of Houston. This was the first time such a ruling was needed by the "supreme arbitrating body of Urantia Brotherhood." I am optimistic that the fair procedures followed, as set down by our constitution, will materially aid in a favorable outcome to the Foundation's pending case involving First Urantia Society of Houston, Incorporated. There are many valuable lessons to be learned from this experience which I am sure the Houston society officers would be happy to share.

The Internal Revenue Service denied a request by Urantia Foundation seeking exemption from the support fraction ruling, e.g. bookstore chains are treated as one contributor rather than each individual store that receives The Urantia Book. This potentially can greatly complicate our maintaining a non-profit tax exempt status if sales to a particular chain exceed a certain dollar amount in relation to the overall number of contributors to the Brotherhood and Foundation.

For the first time the Brotherhood mounted a full-scale effort through the Finance Committee to conduct a phone-a-thon fund drive to establish a perpetual printing fund for Urantia Foundation. It has had several benefits in addition to raising money. It has given experience to many volunteers on how to conduct such an effort. It has begun the process of educating our supporters of meaningful projects that need funding. As expected, it has cut into contributions to the general fund. While it is obvious that the Brotherhood must live within its budget, I believe we will have to begin thinking of creative ways of raising funds to support the projects being developed by committee activity. Neither contributions nor income from book sales at their current level will support such programs. Maybe it is time to consider a dues structure for Brotherhood members? I cannot think of any voluntary association that does not charge dues.

Another first, as concerns Brotherhood activity, was a conclave of society representatives convened and hosted by First Urantia Society as part of their 25th anniversary celebration. This was a meeting at which societies discussed both common and unique problems, a sharing of ideas and experiences. While I have not yet received a written report of the meeting, I do know there is a positive response to the idea of having more such meetings. Two items to come out of this gathering were the realization that a requirement to have completed a reading of The Urantia Book to become a member is not universal. Members could be elected to this General Council without having read The Urantia Book. The other was a request for an orientation meeting for society delegates prior to the Triennial Delegate Assembly to more effectively review the purposes of the proceedings.

I believe a most important project, the Domestic Extension Committee's Study Group Survey, is in its first stage of completion. We finally have some raw data on which to base meaningful activity -- helping those students of the Urantia teachings who desire to find, join, or start study groups. A great amount of work has been done towards completion, but in reality it will never be "complete" since change is constant in the existence of groups as well as individuals to contact. It will be a challenge to keep up-dating information. A similar survey is being conducted on the international level by the International Fellowship Committee.

I think you will be interested to know that the Helsinki study groups have responded enthusiastically to the program of placing books in libraries. They contacted fifty-one librarians who agreed to receive the book. In addition, they sent a generous contribution to the Gift Book Fund. This is a country with a population about the size of Chicago.

On the international level, we continue to face the problems created by the lack of the French translation. The topic of translations is on the agenda for discussion. While the responsibility for translations rests with Urantia Foundation, it does create problems for Brotherhood activities involving French speaking readers. Since frustration seemed to be at a rather high level, at the invitation of the Paris study group, Duane Faw and I visited them this past Spring. Our primary objective was to listen to their complaints. It is the first visit of a Urantia Brotherhood president to Europe. And I believe it had a positive effect in showing our willingness to be there without being able to promise anything involving the translation itself. French readers are interested in having suitable articles from the Journal and Bulletin translated into French. They are seriously thinking of having a small conference or workshop. There is an expressed desire by some to be more closely identified with the Brotherhood through membership of some sort.

While the above deals with French readers, there are a growing number of Spanish students whose desire for a translation is also growing. This situation is different since there is no published translation. I welcome the opportunity during this meeting for discussion of these different and perplexing circumstances.

Another topic on today's agenda concerns the sale and distribution of The Urantia Book. It is a fact that sales of the Book are down. Depending on what figures you use different percentages can be determined. Over the year many have stepped forward to offer their advice and solutions. A pilot project is being developed in connection with a test market area to see what this effect of local volunteers placing books in bookstores will have on sales in that given locale. In addition, other marketing avenues are being assessed.

There continues to be debate near and far over the Issue of "fair use" of copyright material. Everyone seems to have an opinion, some claim to be experts. I am not one of the latter. I do know that if there was a simple answer, we would already have it and there would be no need for further discussion. Since this is not the case, we will have further discussion when we get to this subject on the agenda.

So that we do not forget the more positive side of our work, we recently completed the 1981 General Conference at Snowmass, Colorado, attended by some 900 faith sons and daughters of our Universal Father coming from many states and countries. One participant made the following comment "We recently attended the conference in Snowmass. Our expectations were exceeded and our lives are greatly improved for having attended."

This report only attempts to highlight some of our activities of the past year. Committee chairmen reports go into greater detail and I hope you will have questions for them. This meeting of the General Council provides an important opportunity for us to discuss the problems facing our movement. If the problems were of easy solution, there would be no

need for us to gather together other than social exchange and fellowship. But, we have grown to the point where some issues do not find easy solutions. I borrow a thought from a talk given by Jim Mills at the last Triennial Delegate Assembly. The council is composed of thirty-six sincere, dedicated, motivated individuals. Each one of us has an answer -- some with greater certainty than others -- as how to resolve or solve the various issues to be discussed. By having been elected to participate as a member of this body, we are each a part of a process which involves both compromise and cooperation. We come to appreciate and recognize each other's special talents, sincerity and desire for achieving good ends -- all this, in spite of not necessarily agreeing with a particular point of view. For me, the thought to keep in mind for today is the work is important, self is not. Let us be of good cheer for I am sure there are many unseen friends that are present to champion our efforts, not to mention the encouragement of our elder brother.

Respectfully submitted, John W. Hales, President 7/31/81

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**1981 Annual Report of the Domestic Extension Committee**  
**General Council of Urantia Brotherhood**  
Harry McMullan

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The committee's accomplishment for the year was the correlation of a questionnaire sent to everyone on the Brotherhood mailing list. Its purpose was to locate and identify all existing study groups and to learn the format of their meeting (as to whether they are open to newcomers, their meeting times, and dates and places, for example), so that new readers could be referred to the most suitable nearby group. A collateral purpose of the survey was the updating of the Brotherhood mailing list.

To correlate the results, the USA was divided into 200 zones along state and county lines, based on geography rather than population. Our assumption was that distance is the limiting factor in whether a person might be able to attend any particular study group. Within each zone the study groups were listed, along with the names, addresses and telephone numbers of people having indicated a willingness to be contacted by inquirers.

Sometime this summer we hope to have all this finished, at which time we expect to mail out the results to all respondents for their respective zones, with the expectation that this will enable like-minded individuals to get into contact with each other, and thereby facilitate the growth of study groups. Our survey indicates that there are now at least 218 functioning study groups in the USA; attached hereto is a brief summary of the zones and the study group activity within each.

Our other major project for the year, Library Book Placement, was derailed due to an absence of funding. I hope that I will be excused for using the vehicle of this report to make another pitch for it. The purpose of the program is to make The Urantia Book universally available in the libraries of municipalities, colleges, high schools, prisons, and other institutions. The angel of a man in Oshkosh is unlikely to create a revelation for his subject out of thin air, but if one were available in the local library, he might well be led to it, as many of us were. I see our job in expanding the fellowship of Urantia Book students as primarily one of the physical dissemination of the book itself, believing that the angels of our supervision have endless ways of introducing the book to a likely believer if it is once available. Even though adherence to the teachings of The Urantia Book is what we are ultimately striving for, I am satisfied that the teachings will never gain wide support until the book itself becomes well-known. Bits and pieces of Jesus' teachings can be found all over the landscape, but only in The Urantia Book do we see them in all of their

compelling symmetry.

The program's approach for accomplishing this is to enlist a group of volunteers around the country, individuals interested in seeing the book placed in libraries in their areas. We already have about 100 of such likely people in mind. The cost to the Brotherhood of the program is a contingent one, namely that if the volunteer cannot persuade the librarian to purchase a book, that the volunteer could, on behalf of the Brotherhood, donate one. Such a program would be a great inducement to the volunteers, for they could be reasonably confident that each trip they made to a library would result in the placement of a book.

All of us agree on the desirability Of placing the book in libraries, and I am convinced that the approach I have outlined would be most successful due to the personal interest shown by the volunteer. Any other approach such as mailing out brochures would prove less satisfactory. From conversations I have had with librarians, it appears that they read hardly any of the 50 pounds or so of brochures that they receive in the mail each week. Similarly, books that are simply mailed out to libraries as gifts often end up in their spring-cleaning sales rather than the stacks. If the librarian sees that someone cares enough to make a special trip on behalf of the product, that places the product in a far better position to be accepted.

This approach would capitalize on the efforts of our volunteers I read, last week, that the average cost for an industrial sales call is about \$153.00. This would include all expenses such as salary and transportation. Therefore, even if our volunteers were only exposed to 15% of the average costs for such a visit, the cost to the volunteer would still exceed the cost of the book to the Brotherhood. For that reason we need to offer the volunteer an inducement to help. The willingness of the Brotherhood to donate the book should be sufficient, since the volunteer could be confident that, one way or the other, a book would be placed as a result of his visit.

On a more general level, I believe that the Brotherhood should devote far more of its resources to outreach. For 1981, out of total budgeted income of \$107,850, only \$395 went to the Domestic Extension and International Fellowship committees, the committees specifically, charged with outreach. That comes to less than 4/10th's of one percent. It is odd indeed for our organization to be spending so little on what is supposedly the key purpose of its existence. Over the past few years many charitable foundations have been severely criticized for having as much as 50% of their income chewed up in administration, but our record is pathetic even by that low standard.

Whether the money goes to my pet project or not is immaterial, but I believe that the Brotherhood should so arrange its expenses so that at least a tithe is dedicated to expanding the fellowship. I predict that if this is done, the extra support which we would pick up from the new readers would more than make up the money spent. It would be an

investment in our own future. We are now in the uncomfortable position of asking our members to sacrifice for us while are spending virtually nothing in reaching others in the world hungry for the life-giving truths of the Urantia teachings. Said Jesus to Peter in the garden of the Mark home, "...now must you cease to think about yourself and the troubles of the hour while you prepare to carry the good news of the gospel to those who sit in darkness."

Respectively submitted Harry McMullan Chairman

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# 1981 International Fellowship Committee Report to the General Council of Urantia Brotherhood

Martin W. Myers

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FROM Martin W. Myers, Chairman

DATE: November 20, 1981

## International Fellowship Committee

TO: Executive Committee

cc Members of International Fellowship Committee

RE: International Fellowship Committee Program for placement of The URANTIA Book in libraries other than those in the United States

The purpose of this memorandum is to provide more detail to members of the Executive Committee regarding the International Fellowship Committee's plans and methods for international library book placement so as to enhance a better understanding of how the \$1,000.00 currently allocated for this purpose will be spent. Our program is discussed below. As it swings into action and gains momentum, it is our hope that the committee will receive additional funds in the coming years for the continued international library placement of The URANTIA Book and translations thereof as they become available. Judging from the shared enthusiasm for our program as it is already generally understood, we will surely not be disappointed.

First of all, although The URANTIA Book is currently available only in English, we can take heart in that English has become and promises increasingly to be the international language of the world. This is, of course, is not to say that this obviates the need for translations of The URANTIA Book as many of us have already poignantly experienced the need first hand. But while we hope and work for qualified translations, we should take advantage of those resources we currently have and exploit them to the maximum advantage possible, setting the stage where possible for the discovery in other countries of the revelation in the original English free from possible mis-translations.

The committee believes that one effective way to accomplish this is to place The URANTIA Book in international bilingual libraries where an English book section already exists. Experience suggests that where possible, a personal contact with the person in charge of acquisitions is most effective. If that is impossible, then a letter will need do. There is some debate whether we should first entice them to buy the book, or make an outright offer of one as a gift with the understanding that it will indeed be made available for circulation.

Upon reflection, it seems one could assume that with the world economy as it presently is, we would do better in these initial stages to offer to give a book to a particular library.

But then the next question is where should we begin placing books? Before answering this question, please bear in mind that URANTIA Brotherhood and URANTIA Foundation have over the years placed books in approximately 140 libraries in other countries including Bangladesh, Chile, Dominican Republic, Finland, Germany, Guyana, Iceland, Indonesia, Japan, Liberia, Liechtenstein, Mexico, Monaco, Philippines, Switzerland, and Union of South Africa, as well as the British Isles, Canada, Australia, and New Zealand.

For the immediate future the committee has tentatively focused on Australia, Brazil, China, French Canada, Greece, Saudi Arabia, Spanish speaking Latin America, and military bases of the U.S. armed forces. Currently, of the latter those targeted are Korea, Germany, Belgium (this one also serves all of Europe), the Canal Zone and all of Japan. These countries and areas were chosen initially because of the personal contacts already available to us in many of them. Undoubtedly, each of you has a recommendations and our list will grow, probably faster than our ability to exhaust it!

In any event, this process may be somewhat self-selecting as it seems wise to solicit the interest and aid of nationals in their respective countries to help effectively place The URANTIA Book there.

Our approach is rather simple. Attached is a suggested letter to librarians and a suggested letter to individuals on our international mailing list. Also attached are two suggested follow-up letters, one to those libraries which have not responded to our offer, and the other to be used with those who accept the gift. A further suggested letter is attached which could be used to send to those libraries accepting our offer to be sure the book is in circulation. Finally, enclosed is a letter which we propose to send to the 140 or so libraries to whom we have previously sent books, to determine if they are still available. These letters may be modified as the situation demands. These letter samples, attached to this memorandum are, however, an integral part both of this exposition and our program. Hopefully, these letters will all be typed on "Maggie."

The IFC is currently working on an informational pamphlet along the lines of that originally suggested by Larry Bowman and later by Harry McMullan. Until such time as it becomes available, we can, one would think, confidently rely upon those materials currently available from headquarters.

Our goal for book placement in 1982 is 50 volumes, which will roughly exhaust the \$1,000.00 currently allocated to this effort.

The committee sees the foregoing as an on-going program to which creative improvements will be made, both as we gain experience and increasingly enlist the cooperation of others. The committee realizes, however, that there are finite limits and our enthusiasm is tempered somewhat by what we hope is a studied realism which will ultimately promise solid and effective results over the long term for that

time when the world will indeed be ready to seek after truth and righteousness.

This program is sponsored by the entire International Fellowship Committee and friends. Once approved, it will initially be executed and coordinated by Julia K. Fenderson and myself with the anticipated assistance of the Resident Director and his staff to the extent their time and other precious resources permit. Participation will be expanded as opportunities arise. The foregoing statement as to library book placement is descriptive of our currently planned efforts and suggestive of those in the future. It by no means is definitive and it purposely does not touch on other aspects of international dissemination.

Your suggestions, comments and criticisms are welcome.

It has been fun preparing these materials, and it will be even more fun if we may have your approval to proceed, generally following our program as described above.

**TO: GENERAL COUNCIL OF URANTIA BROTHERHOOD**  
**FROM: DAVID N. ELDERS, CHAIRMAN--CHARTER COMMITTEE**  
**SUBJ: COMMITTEE REPORT FOR PERIOD AUGUST, 1980-AUGUST 1981**

June 6, 1981

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"The acid test for any religious philosophy consists in whether or not it distinguishes between the realities of the material and the spiritual worlds while at the same moment recognizing their unification in intellectual striving and in social serving." The Urantia Book, Published by Urantia Foundation, 1955. P. 1114:4

This quotation from The Urantia Book articulately states one of the major areas of concern for the Charter Committee--i.e., that our committee's work facilitate the comprehension by potential (and existing) Society members of the significant differences between the material/evolutionary requirements and responsibilities of Society and Urantia Brotherhood membership, and membership in the wholly spiritually-based brotherhood of all believers. Inasmuch as we believe that our organization is a time/space limited scaffolding to be used to insure--(a) the wide availability of The Urantia Book, (b) the continued study and dissemination of its teachings, and (c) most importantly, the development of personal religious experience with the Father--we have a significant responsibility to prevent our Society structure from becoming just another church or sect. As Bill Sadler stated in his oft-quoted address to the First Triennial "...and if we can maintain these differences between our brotherhood and a church..we may be able to avoid a possible evolution in the direction of a church.....We claim no spiritual sovereignty; we claim no exclusive path to salvation; we claim no ecclesiastical authority."

To the Charter Committee, this general context for our work suggests that we:

--See the Society as a temporal organizational tool to aid in the achievement of our objectives; thereby,

--Requiring of Societies stability, maturity, and a minimal comprehension of just what it is they are promulgating (i.e., it would seem obvious that members should have read The Urantia Book at least once); and,

--Underlying this approach that the Societies augment (and not replace) the individual's personal, inward search for an ever deepening relationship with the Father; to the end that,

--Membership in the brotherhood of man--and not membership in Urantia Brotherhood--is clearly understood to be our aim.

During the past year, and into next, our projects are as follows:

1. At our committee meetings this past year, we have processed the initial application for chartering of the Tampa Bay Area Urantia Society. This group is currently functioning informally and upon completion of their year's waiting period, will make final application and be chartered sometime after September, 1981, if all requirements are met as expected.

2. We have begun the task of rewriting our written materials for distribution to interested, prospective Societies. We plan to present our work to the Executive Committee this next year for evaluation and approval.

3. At a gathering of Society representatives this past March, David Renn, on behalf of the Charter Committee, gave a paper on "The Future of Urantia Societies." One of the many fine points David made in this presentation underlines one of the Charter committee's responsibilities in helping to insure mature, stable leadership in our organization:

"We have a responsibility also to assure that each member achieves a thorough reading of the book. It is possible to elect to standing committees, to the Executive Committee, to the General Council, and to positions as officers in Urantia Brotherhood, persons who have not read the book. We must provide some mechanism to insure that each person accepting higher functional responsibility has read the book to the end that we maintain leadership based on the teachings of The Urantia Book."

4. We plan to undertake in the next year a study of Brotherhood membership in general, including: Society versus membership-at-large, a review of requirements, an evaluation of our guiding philosophy, an evaluation of study group importance and vitality versus the Society, etc. Hopefully our committee will elicit the aid of existing Society experience in this process.

We welcome your criticisms, your comments, your questions. Please let us know what you think about our work and these issues.

In closing, I would like to formally thank my committee members for their time and efforts: Mary Lou Hales, Ticky Harries, Lucile Kulieke, David Renn, and Irene Sprunger.

Respectfully submitted, David Elders For the Charter Committee

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**STATEMENT OF THE CURRENT THINKING  
OF THE EDUCATION COMMITTEE OF  
URANTIA BROTHERHOOD, 1981**

**Report to the General Council of the Brotherhood**

Lynne B. Kulieke

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**A. Brotherhood Educational Activities.**

As individuals, the members of the Education Committee unite with readers of The URANTIA Book and other Urantians in that greatest of personal adventures, seeking to do the Father's will. As an arm of the URANTIA Brotherhood, the fraternal organization of students of The URANTIA Book, the Education Committee has a social function. The Brotherhood constitution charges the committee to find, prepare, and qualify teachers for the purpose of disseminating the teachings of the book in order that each mortal may be aided in achieving his/her personal spiritual goals. Thus, it is the committee's task to encourage intensive study of the papers together with study of evolutionary knowledge, secular and religious., We do not maintain that such study is an end in itself, but we do affirm that it can be invaluable when coupled with communion between the individual and her/his Thought Adjuster, when enhanced by the individual's cooperation with other superhuman agencies, when assimilated into the individual's life pattern. The committee, in its coordinating role, arranges to bring people together on our time-space sphere where they, through the study experience, may contribute to their own education and to that of others by sharing.

**B. Workshops.**

As part of the attempt to achieve the afore-mentioned aims, the Education Committee has initiated a series of workshops with the following specific objectives:

1) To provide a framework for study of the teachings of The URANTIA Book with the idea of improving quantitative and qualitative knowledge of these teachings.

To provide a laboratory practicum in which participants may try various techniques in and of the teaching/learning process for use in other situations (i.e. the local study group, the family). This practice in socializing learning may well facilitate the development of those skills which promote awareness of values and meanings in addition to facts.

3) To provide a climate in which personalities may interact cooperatively in such study--to provide generally yet-another experience in living. The committee feels that other benefits not related to education (except in the very broadest sense) may accrue for both the individual and the group. The

members enjoy speculating that these workshops may even become one of those alternative institutions of self-gratification which civilization is encouraged to develop. (P. 772)

In the current series, three programs have been offered--1978, 1979, and 1980--either as part of a General Conference or in cooperation with other standing committees of the Brotherhood.

#### C. Workshop for 1981 General Conference.

The committee would like to acquaint more readers of the book with the workshop activity outlined above. Hence, in 1981 we are offering a "demonstration" workshop consistent with the theme of the Conference. Our topic is "Recognition of the Gifts of the Father," with the focus on those gifts--not always obvious--that we can utilize as we pursue in depth our studies of the truths contained in The URANTIA Book. We are hopeful that the participants will become so engaged in this kind of activity that they will join in future workshops, broadening and deepening their own experience while contributing to the growth of others.

#### D. Study Aids.

The Education Committee does not have the authority to make decisions on the reproduction and dissemination of study materials on The URANTIA Book Such power rests with the URANTIA Foundation. It is true that the committee, operating through the Executive Committee of the URANTIA Brotherhood, may make recommendations to the Foundation. However, the Education Committee has found from experience that the most valuable aids are those which, through study, one provides oneself and those which accompany personal interchange. Knowledge and understanding can also be strengthened by individual pursuit of interests "inspired " by reading the papers.

#### E. Conclusion.

The committee hopes that this summary of its thinking, by no means exhaustive, will serve to promote an understanding of its concerns and functions.

#### Education Committee Members:

Marjorie Reed K. David Schlundt Marilyn Hauck Stephen Dreier Helen Carlson, Secretary Lynne Kulieke, Chairman

LK/jm 6/3/81

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## **1981 JUDICIAL COMMITTEE REPORT TO THE GENERAL COUNCIL OF URANTIA BROTHERHOOD**

Duane Faw

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In a sense the Judicial Committee is like a Fire Department: much of its work involves some sort of emergency. The fewer the legal problem and legal questions that are raised in the Executive Committee, the less work it has to do.

Judicially speaking, 1980-81 has been a relatively 'quiet year. Instead of the brush fires of 1979-80, the Committee has faced a single major conflagration: that of determining the "true officers" and "true society" in Houston. On December 12 and 13, 1980, the Committee "sat" as the supreme arbitrating body of URANTIA Brotherhood in Houston, Texas, for the purpose of determining which of two contending groups should be recognized by URANTIA Brotherhood as the First URANTIA Society of Houston. The unanimous report of the Judicial Comity was accepted by the Executive Committee, and the matter appears to be closed.

The Chairman of the-judicial Committee accompanied the President of URANTIA Brotherhood on a liaison visit to readers of The URANTIA Book and La COSMOGONY d'URANTIA in Paris in response to their request. It is hoped that the visit will result in a closer relationship between the Brotherhood and the readers in Europe, with a view toward incorporating them into the Brotherhood at the appropriate time.

Burton P. Harris, a faithful member of the Judicial Committee for many years, has requested that he be given a rest at the end of his term in 1981. "Pepper" deserves our sincere thanks-for a job well done.

The Committee is ready to respond to any need for its services, but is not seeking any fires to extinguish.

Sincerely,

Malibu, CA June, 1981

Duane L. Faw, Chairman

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**1981 REPORT OF THE VICE PRESIDENT  
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. I keep 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 assistants, such as Mr. Scott Forsythe and Mr. Mike Painter, plus Miss Kay Michaels.

This past year, I have enjoyed my service with the URANTIA Brotherhood as Chairman of the Nominating Committee. This is always a challenging task.

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, and the number of these visitors has increased the last couple of years.

This is a great place to be!

E. L. Christensen, Vice President

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