



URANTIA BROTHERHOOD
531 DIVERSEY PARKWAY CHICAGO ILLINOIS 60614

URANTIA BROTHERHOOD GENERAL COUNCIL

ANNUAL MEETING JUNE 27, 1982

REPORTS OF

OFFICERS

DEPARTMENTAL CHAIRMEN

FIELD REPRESENTATIVES

REPORT TO THE GENERAL COUNCIL OF THE URANTIA BROTHERHOOD
BY
KATHARINE J. HARRIS, SECRETARY
June 27, 1982

The months fly past so quickly from one General Council meeting to the next that things start to blur in memory. Our meetings grow longer as they include more and more business to consider and the minutes of these meetings keep pace. Much work is done outside the regular Executive Committee meetings by special committees dealing with specific projects. One of these was the series of meetings held to make plans for, and set up a final program for this current TDA and General Council.

You will notice from the Census records that we are not standing still. In 1979 the Societies had 562 members and there were 172 Members-at-Large. In 1980 there were 619 members and 181 M-A-L. Now in 1981 we have 677 members and 187 M-A-L. It seems to be slow but steady and records are kept as individuals are added or removed for any reason.

There is a good deal of typing and record keeping in the job of Secretary, yet it can't help but be fascinating because it keeps your finger right on the pulse of all that's happening at all times.

Katharine J. Harris
Katharine J. Harris, Secretary

REPORT OF THE TREASURER OF
URANTIA BROTHERHOOD AND
URANTIA BROTHERHOOD CORPORATION
TO THE GENERAL COUNCIL
June 27, 1982

Attached are the financial statements of URANTIA Brotherhood
Corporation for the year ending December 31, 1981, which have
been audited by Arthur Andersen and Company.

Edith E. Cook

Treasurer

URANTIA BROTHERHOOD CORPORATION

Balance Sheet
December 31, 1981

ASSETS

Current Assets

Cash, including \$21,238 in time deposits	\$ 29,181	
Miscellaneous receivables	4,735	
Inventory, Concordex	219	
Prepaid expense	4,838	
Commercial paper and marketable securities	<u>224,623</u>	\$263,596
<u>Office Equipment, at cost</u>	\$ 24,744	
Less accumulated depreciation	<u>11,859</u>	<u>12,885</u>
		<u>\$276,481</u>

LIABILITIES & NET WORTH

Current Liabilities

Accounts payable	\$ 5,359	
Due URANTIA Foundation	19,544	
Payroll taxes payable	1,120	
Current portion of installment loan payable	2,579	
Accrued audit fee	4,000	
Reserve for contributions for Gift Books	224	
Deferred income	10,099	
Reserve for Triennial Delegate Assembly	<u>400</u>	\$ 43,325

Long-term Liabilities - installment loan payable 2,215

Board-designated gift book funds 5,797

Net Worth

Treasury reserve, 12/31/80	\$193,592	
Net income for the Y/E 12/31/81	37,552	
Transferred to board-designated gift book funds	<u>(6,000)</u>	<u>225,144</u>
TOTAL LIABILITIES & NET WORTH		<u>\$276,481</u>

GH/dvk
6/1/82

URANTIA BROTHERHOOD CORPORATION

Comparative Statement of Revenues and Expenses
For the Years Ended December 31, 1981 & 1980

<u>INCOME</u>	<u>1981</u>	<u>1980</u>
Commissions earned - URANTIA Foundation	\$ 26,240	\$ 24,394
Contributions for expenses	53,024	47,729
Tithes from URANTIA Societies	1,686	960
Sale of Concordex	4,668	3,552
Subscriptions to URANTIAN Journal	3,493	2,072
Sale of Emblems	342	480
Sale of Textbooks	---	63
Sale of Carrying Covers	580	---
Interest earned	35,720	23,217
Workshop Registration Fees	---	1,448
Gen. Conf. registration & activity fees	28,103	---
	<u>\$153,856</u>	<u>\$103,915</u>
 <u>OPERATING EXPENSES</u>		
Rent	\$ 6,000	\$ 6,000
Telephone	1,153	1,271
Postage & Handling	3,724	3,150
Office Supplies and Expenses	4,323	2,894
Committee Expense	3,858	7,794
General Conference Expense	28,293	---
Travel Expense	1,720	768
Audit Expense	4,000	3,200
Accounting Services	4,746	3,546
Legal Expense	---	153
Accumulated Expense for Triennial Delegate Assembly	200	200
Office Salaries	39,150	36,205
Social Security Taxes	2,604	2,219
Employee Insurance Expense	3,674	2,729
Depreciation Expense	2,365	2,295
Maintenance Contracts	1,685	1,362
General Insurance	836	166
URANTIA Journal Expense	1,956	1,896
Retirement Pay	900	900
Concordex Cost of Sales	3,283	2,148
Emblems Cost of Sales	334	509
Carrying Covers Cost of Sales	258	---
Interest Expense	809	544
Miscellaneous Expense	433	2,046
	<u>\$116,304</u>	<u>\$ 81,995</u>
TOTAL EXPENSES		
	<u>\$ 37,552</u>	<u>\$ 21,920</u>
TRANSFERRED TO TREASURY RESERVE		

REPORT OF SECRETARY-GENERAL TO GENERAL COUNCIL - JUNE 27, 1982

The duties of the Secretary-General remain the same, but the volume of work increases each year. Correspondence this last year has increased to a considerable degree, with the bulk of the letters asking how the person can contact other readers and study groups, with the second highest number from those who have seen or heard of the book and want to know how they can get it. It is a great help to have form letters on these subjects on our memory machine and of course the replies are adjusted to fit special cases.

Because our meeting this year is much earlier than last year, the demographic profile as of June 30 cannot be presented, but I will cover some of the things you may be interested in.

The number of societies is still 13, with no new group ready for a charter. The number of society members has increased from 644 to 677 from June 30 to the present, and we have 188 members-at-large, making a total of 865 Brotherhood members. Twenty-four of these are international.

The personnel for the Brotherhood has not changed in the last year. There are four paid employees:

John Hales, Resident Director
June Moritz - Secretary
Gloriann Harris - Accountant (part-time)
Anna Rawson (retired)

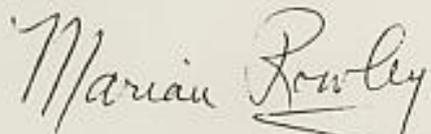
We have lost Christy as one of our volunteers, but we still have the following:

Marian Rowley - Secretary-General
Helen Carlson - Book Orders
Edith Cook - Treasurer
Russell Sedlar, Shipping and anything else we want done.

We also have other volunteers who come in occasionally to help get out large mailings such as the Bulletin and solicitation letters.

The mailing list is increasing steadily and now numbers about 3300. The Journal subscription list goes up and down and now numbers about 500. We keep getting new subscriptions, but many fail to renew their subscriptions so the count fluctuates. We have a very mobile population and it takes a great amount of time to keep both lists up to date with additions, deletions, and changes.

In spite of much routine drudgery work, this seems to me to be the most interesting office in the organization.



Marian Rowley, Secretary-General

MTR
5/21/82

From: Judicial Committee
To: Triennial Delegate Assembly and Triennial Meeting of the General Council

Subject: Annual Report of the Judicial Committee

The Judicial Committee is pleased to report that it has nothing to report. No proposed amendments to the Consitution were submitted to the Committee for consideration. No resolutions were forwarded to the Committee for its action or recommendation. No disputes or appeals required Committee hearings or action. It has no unfinished business.

The Judicial Committee does not generate its own tasks, but responds to the needs of the Brotherhood in areas outlined by the Constitution. It stands ready to act on such matters as may be referred to it.



Duane L. Faw
Chairman
May 21, 1982

May 27, 1982

TO: GENERAL COUNCIL OF URANTIA BROTHERHOOD
FROM: DAVID N. ELDERS, CHAIRMAN--CHARTER COMMITTEE
SUBJ: COMMITTEE REPORT FOR PERIOD AUGUST, 1981-JUNE, 1982

"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

The essential message of this quote has again guided the work of the Charter Committee during this past year as we have continued our search for a consistent approach to the question of membership in URANTIA Brotherhood. Inasmuch as we did not have much work to do in the specific area of chartering societies (Tampa Bay area withdrew after filing its initial chartering documents), we spent our time this past year in an evaluation of the meaning of membership in the context of the work on philosophy we began last year.

An update on our progress is summarized below:

1. Last August a questionnaire was sent to all General Councilors asking for opinions and experience in the area of the meaning and value of membership generally, and specifically requesting a response to the question of whether or not every person who joins URANTIA Brotherhood should have read The URANTIA Book in its entirety at least once. Of the 36 Councilors, 24 responded. The most complete response, from Paul Snider, represents an articulate statement of the thrust of by far a majority of the rest of the Councilors participating. Because of this, and because it also represents a view in concert with the Charter Committee, we have included a copy in this report.

Indicated action: As a result of our studies and evaluation to date, we plan to submit to the General Council Meeting this June a proposal for a change in the Constitution of URANTIA Brotherhood which would require all General Councilors and representatives to the TDA to have completed a reading of The URANTIA Book. Further, we plan to initiate discussion with existing Societies on the desirability of requiring every member of the brotherhood to have completed one reading.

2. We have been continuing our work on rewriting the materials for those study groups who wish to consider society status. This is a project which we plan to complete this year.

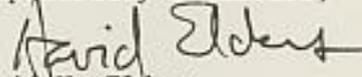
3. For the first year, the Charter Committee will host a workshop at this year's program at Lake Forest. Our subject will be the same as our membership project with the combined purpose of eliciting broader comment and experience from participants while at the same time raising consciousness of the need to integrate the statement in the aforementioned quote with a practical philosophy of membership in URANTIA Brotherhood.
4. Active study groups which have inquired about society status include: The Valley Forum (part of FUSLA at this time), Jabal Pur, India (just beginning the active study group formation process--many years away from society status), Austin, Texas (they have even begun the draft of a constitution); Tampa Bay Area, and Toronto, Canada have pulled back somewhat from actively pursuing chartering.

It is the Charter Committee's belief that the effectiveness of URANTIA Brotherhood in the coming years as a facilitator of personal religious experience, a mechanism for the progressive understanding of our Father and the universe in which we are citizens, and the steady but sure spread of The URANTIA Book itself will in no small part be due to the quality of those persons who become its members; and, quality in this sense has to do with increasing understanding of and familiarity with all facets of The URANTIA Book, commitment to both the spiritual brotherhood and the social organization now growing up as a community of students of the teachings, and the cooperative experience and wisdom of those who have agreed to function for a time in organizational capacities.

My warmest thanks to the members of the Charter Committee who have served so well during this past year: Lucille Faw, Mary Lou Hales, Ticky Harries, David Renn, and Irene Sprunger.

"Man can never wisely decide temporal issues or transcend the selfishness of personal interests unless he meditates in the presence of the sovereignty of God and reckons with the realities of divine meanings and spiritual values." The URANTIA Book, p. 1093:2

Respectfully submitted,



David N. Elders

For the Charter Committee

SUGGESTIONS REGARDING

A GUIDING PHILOSOPHY OF MEMBERSHIP IN URANTIA BROTHERHOOD

Summary

Urantia Brotherhood was created to serve five broad purposes:

- To disseminate The Urantia Book;
- To foster the development of "thousands of study groups;"
- To pre-empt the formation of other "Urantia Brotherhoods;"
- To satisfy a hunger for identification and belonging among believers; and
- To do everything possible to achieve the goals set down in Article II of the Brotherhood constitution, which can be roughly summarized as the spiritual transformation of mankind.

Anyone desiring membership in the Brotherhood:

- Should have read The Urantia Book and believe in its teachings, and
- Should be committed to the overall purposes of the Brotherhood.

I have thought at length about, and finally rejected, the notion that our requirements for membership include a commitment "to attempt to live the Urantia teachings." Although this issue reflects the central problem facing Urantia Brotherhood today, such a commitment is between the individual and the Father in heaven alone, and has no place in a list of requirements.

All members of the Brotherhood, both new and old, should be asked every three years to designate their level of commitment for the next three years, either as:

- Active Status

Indicating a willingness to work actively to disseminate The Urantia Book, foster study group development, work to strengthen Urantia Societies, serve in administrative roles, accept special assignments, etc. -- or --

- Fellowship Status

A euphemism for inactive membership, indicating a need to be identified with the Brotherhood, stay on the mailing list, take part in study groups, receive invitations to conferences, etc., but generally to play a more passive role in Brotherhood affairs.

In time, the membership-at-large issue will have to shift from the Executive Committee to individual Urantia Societies, together with all associated contact, review, and acceptance activities. The result will be that all members of the Brotherhood will be members of individual Urantia Societies, either within the community or having "at large" status.

Discussion

Dave, I think there are a number of ways of analyzing where we came from, where we are, and where we are going, that may provide some clues from which a guiding philosophy of membership might be clarified, beginning with our origin as a Brotherhood.

Why Urantia Brotherhood Was Created

Urantia Brotherhood was created to serve five broad purposes, some of which have been explicitly stated, some of which are implicit in the nature of our mission:

- To disseminate The Urantia Book;
- To foster the development of "thousands of study groups;"
- To pre-empt the formation of other "Urantia Brotherhoods;"
- To satisfy a hunger for identification and belonging among believers; and
- To do everything possible to achieve the goals set down in Article II of the Brotherhood constitution, which can be roughly summarized as the spiritual transformation of mankind.

Each of these purposes can teach us something about a guiding philosophy of membership.

It is now clear to me that one of our major purposes is to disseminate The Urantia Book. It sounds simple to say, perhaps self-evident; yet, for years this simple purpose was somewhat confused in my mind. The origin of my confusion can be traced both to the atmosphere of secrecy that pervaded my early relationship with 533, and to the way our mission is articulated in the constitution as disseminating "the teachings of The Urantia Book." For many years I saw these as twin, but essentially parallel, goals. The way I rationalized this was that the Book is ahead of its time, and thus our mission right now should emphasize spreading the teachings. And while I still believe that attempts to disseminate the teachings of the Book are useful and ought to be encouraged, I no longer confuse this effort with what I believe is the first primary mission of Urantia Brotherhood, which is to disseminate the Book itself. For the clarity of this understanding I owe much to something that Meredith Sprunger wrote in a brief paper titled "Interface With the Church" on May 17, 1979. The paragraph which startled me, and began the re-shaping of my thinking was this:

"After much experimentation I have come to the conclusion that all second handed and human attempts to inculcate Urantia Book teachings into our society are relatively ineffective as a vehicle of spiritual awakening and social change in our contemporary culture. Most of the concepts of The Urantia Book are already in our culture in various places --

just as the ideas Jesus presented were not new to the world. It is the unique integration of these ideas in The Urantia Book which makes them effective -- just as it was the unique integration of the teachings of Jesus in his superb personality which laid the foundations for a new age. Our little candles cannot adequately substitute for the sun of a new revelation. Twenty years of experience have convinced me that any "bootleg" attempt to share the teachings of the fifth epochal revelation, apart from the book itself, is not very effective in our present-day, complex, pluralistic civilization. Even charismatic individuals cannot bring about a spiritual renaissance; only an epochal revelation can lay the foundations for a new age."

The task of disseminating The Urantia Book should be regarded as inherently active in character. We need members who are willing to work, to work in a steady, purposeful way to ensure that the Book is being planted in all manner of places in which it might be found by truth seekers. In this way we can actively aid the work of the superhuman personalities and agencies of the spirit that lead us ever forward.

While our first purpose is one of sharing and outreach, our second purpose -- fostering study group development -- is primarily organizational in nature. Study groups will form naturally, with or without our help. But again, I believe we should view our fostering role as an active mission. We can bring believers together to begin study groups, help them develop, evolve, mature and stabilize. We can help the best ones become Urantia Societies, which can then take an active role in further study group development and coordination. Our broad purpose in doing this, from an organizational point of view, is to establish a worldwide, coordinated organizational framework to be ready and in place when the Urantia revelation begins its worldwide mission.

Anyone who has ever tried to develop study groups knows that it is not a task for the faint-of-heart or for prima donnas. The task requires steady, determined, loving leadership, somehow blended with a generous supply of wisdom and patience. What this means to the consideration of a membership philosophy is that the Brotherhood needs to be populated as much as possible by mature, stable, spiritually progressive individuals who are willing to work to provide the time, the initiative, and the patient leadership required.

Our third and fourth purpose should be thought of together because they are inherently connected. By our existence we fill conceptual space; we "pre-empt" the formation of other "Urantia Brotherhoods." This goal is essentially passive and protective in nature, but it has an active element. Our pre-emptive purpose seems to be to ensure that the social framework surrounding the revelation does not demonstrate characteristics that are alien to the spirit of the revelation; or, viewed from the positive side, our purpose is to develop a social organization identified with the revelation that appears to be in keeping with the character of the revelation itself. This suggests that some screening of membership applicants is in order. We cannot simply say, as someone once suggested to me with intense passion, that "the only requirement for becoming a member of Urantia Brotherhood is the desire to know God."

But in the same breath I hasten to add: Whatever screening we do should be done by the technique of "trading our minds for the mind of Jesus." looking at every individual through the eyes of the Master himself. Any other technique will sooner or later begin to thwart rather than enhance our ability to accomplish our purposes. There is a thin line that separates the two kinds of Brotherhoods we can become. On one hand we can be open, warm, and loving, yet sensitive to the requirements of our mission and determined to carry it out. On the other hand, we could become essentially closed and inward looking, self-preoccupied, "chosen people-ish," sect-like, a cult centered around a book.

By pre-empting the formation of other Urantia Brotherhoods, we have thereby become responsible for providing a specific means to satisfy the natural hunger for identification and belonging among believers. If we do not do this, the believers who feel left out, or who feel the Brotherhood is essentially unfair in its membership requirements, will soon band together to develop a new and more vigorous brotherhood -- a Jesus Brotherhood -- which will surely meet their needs.

The implication is simple: We must be very, very careful about turning believers away who have otherwise satisfied our stated requirements for membership. We must proceed with love and fairness in our hearts, giving every individual the benefit of the doubt when we are not sure. We must recognize the legitimacy of the need for identification and belonging.

Our fifth purpose is both social and spiritual, and in effect sums up all of our other purposes -- the spiritual transformation of mankind. This is the permanent interest of Urantia Brotherhood, toward which all other activities should be focused. Although broadly stated in Article II of the constitution, and extremely long-range in nature, this overall purpose of our work has a specific bearing on our consideration of a philosophy of membership. What it suggests is that if we are going to work toward the spiritual transformation of mankind, we must begin by first becoming transformed ourselves. If we are going to become transformed on the basis of the Urantia revelation, we must first believe in its teachings. Thus, one of the essential minimum requirements for membership in Urantia Brotherhood ought to be that the applicant has read The Urantia Book and believes in its teachings.

We have to remember at all times that this is Jesus' Brotherhood. The religious origin of the Brotherhood really took place the day after Peter made his confession of Jesus' divinity, when Jesus spoke to the Apostles and said:

"Upon this rock of spiritual reality will I build the living temple of spiritual fellowship in the eternal realities of my Father's kingdom. And all of the forces of evil and the hosts of sin shall not prevail against this human fraternity of the divine spirit."

All who have committed themselves to the task of helping Jesus build the "living temple of spiritual fellowship" would do well to use the same test Jesus used in the evaluation of institutional methods and goals. I think Jesus would say that the ultimate test of our membership philosophy is this: Does it bring man to God? Does it bring God to man?

Pathways to Membership

The Brotherhood constitution provides two separate pathways to membership: (1) by means of membership in a Urantia Society, or (2) by special action of the Executive Committee in granting membership-at-large status.

As I attempt to peer into the future of the Brotherhood, and test what I see against the steady reference of the Urantia papers, it appears that the Society route to membership will become permanent. In time the formal organizational design of the Brotherhood, including the Societies, will be changed to reflect more closely what we have learned from the revelation and the realities of our organizational mission. But the essential function of the Societies will not change because it is consistent with what we have learned and what we have to do. Societies serve a very valuable role for orderly decentralization of activities.

Notwithstanding the stern language of the constitution, which empowers the Charter Committee to exert authoritarian control over Societies with regard to the qualification of members, in fact the Committee has always exercised this power in an essentially advisory capacity, and probably will continue to do so in the future. Because it is more "advisory" than "authoritative," the Committee thus should aim toward a policy of establishing an essential minimum number of qualifications for membership, otherwise its effectiveness will be weakened. The authoritative powers of the Committee should be exercised only in rare circumstances in which there is real danger to the progress of the Brotherhood in achieving its objectives.

Membership-at-large is a different matter. Projecting ahead, the sheer number of such applications will soon (perhaps within this decade) begin to outstrip the ability of the Executive Committee to deal with them. Apart from all considerations regarding the quality of review such applications should have, at the point at which the Executive Committee is reviewing some 30 to 50 applications a year, this activity will begin to exert an influence on the way the Committee spends its time that is disproportionate to its priorities.

When this decision has to be made, we will face at least three alternatives: (1) make membership-at-large virtually automatic upon application; (2) take constitutional action to abandon this form of membership; or (3) delegate the concept of membership-at-large to Urantia Societies, together with all associated contact, review, and acceptance activities.

The first choice would be an abdication of our responsibility. The second choice would eventually create a volcanic pressure leading to the creation of an alternative brotherhood. But the third choice is practical and do-able. (Please note that I have entirely omitted a fourth choice -- creating a headquarters staff so large that it could do all the background "processing" of applications so that the Executive Committee role would become perfunctory. I think we have to make a determined and unrelenting effort to keep the headquarters staff as small as possible; if we don't, we will in time find that we no longer have the ability to carry out our mission, only the ability to create the appearance of carrying out our mission.)

For these reasons I believe there will "soon" be only one pathway to membership -- as a member of a Urantia Society, either within the community or having "at large" status. This will further strengthen the role of Societies in carrying out the Brotherhood mission, and at the same time resolve an important subsidiary issue, by giving members-at-large a voice in the makeup of the leadership of the Brotherhood as participants in the group decisions of their Societies.

In anticipation of this evolutionary step in the maturation of the Brotherhood, there is a suggestion for a Charter Committee task that has not been specifically defined, and yet which is in fact the task you are now beginning to undertake -- to define, articulate, and communicate what membership in the Brotherhood means, and does not mean. The importance of this task originates in the confusions and misperceptions that tend to take hold in the minds of new students of the revelation, even those who have had some active contact with Chicago.

What Membership in Urantia Brotherhood Means (And Does Not Mean)

Over the years as I have observed the growth of the Brotherhood, it has occurred to me that individuals apply for membership for the following reasons:

- A generalized expression of identification with the fifth epochal revelation and a commitment to its purposes;
- An expression of willingness to work actively to carry out the objectives of the Urantia organizations;
- Fraternity with other believers; and, for some:
- A mystical or spiritual confusion which has led them to believe that membership in Urantia Brotherhood somehow is the same as "entrance into a new religion," "membership in the invisible spiritual brotherhood," and even "entrance into the kingdom of heaven."

For many people, all of these reasons are subtly blended, with greater or lesser emphasis, in their thinking as they reach the decision to apply. To complicate the situation even more, new believers are confronted with a bewildering array of formal and informal Urantia organizations of which the lines of demarcation are not always clear even to long-time students of the Urantia teachings:

- Urantia Foundation,
- Urantia Brotherhood,
- Urantia Brotherhood Corporation,
- First Urantia Society,
- Urantia Societies (in general), and Urantia Book Study Groups.

The Charter Committee might be able to help people sort through these confusions by preparing written materials that could be given to those who apply for membership. There is a danger, however, in that the very act of preparing such materials could be perceived as arrogant and/or insulting to those who do not suffer from these confusions; but I think this danger could be overcome by the way these materials are written.

The first thing I would recommend is that the Charter Committee reprint as a pamphlet Bill Sadler Jr.'s outstanding analysis that appeared in the inaugural issue of The Urantian under the title, "A Brotherhood -- Not a Church or a Sect." The second handout I would recommend is the pamphlet already in print, "Our Task," by Meredith Sprunger. There are other things already in print that should be considered, but what I have suggested will give you a sense of the thrust of my thinking.

But there is yet another service the Committee could perform -- attempt to "define" (or at least discuss) the differences among the formal organizations of the Urantia movement, the informal organizations of the movement, and certain social and/or spiritual realities that should be understood within the framework of the Urantia revelation. What I have set forth below should be regarded only as a humble beginning of such "definitions."

The formal organizations of the Urantia movement are:

- Urantia Foundation -- Serves as the guardian of The Urantia Book and guides and aids the development of the Urantia mission. The Foundation has three major functions:
 - To publish The Urantia Book and maintain it in print in perpetuity;
 - To protect the copyright to The Urantia Book, the use of the concentric circles symbol, and the special trademark form of the word URANTIA; and
 - To develop and publish translations of The Urantia Book in languages other than the English language.

Urantia Foundation is managed by a five-member group of Trustees who are appointed by the Foundation to life terms.

- Urantia Brotherhood -- Serves as a fellowship of students of The Urantia Book, a social and fraternal organization with a religious objective -- the spiritual transformation of mankind. The Brotherhood has two major functions:
 - To disseminate The Urantia Book, and
 - To develop a world-wide network of Urantia Book Study Groups.

The organizational building blocks of Urantia Brotherhood are Urantia Societies. Urantia Societies together elect members of the Brotherhood to leadership positions within the Brotherhood.

- Urantia Brotherhood Corporation -- Serves as the fiscal agent of the Executive Committee and the Treasurer of the Brotherhood; holds and administers the funds and properties of Urantia Brotherhood. The Corporation has the same principal officers as the Brotherhood.
- First Urantia Society -- The first chartered Society of Urantia Brotherhood, established in 1955. The Society has been meeting since its charter in the same location that serves as headquarters for Urantia Foundation and Urantia Brotherhood. Officers of the Society are elected by Society members at an annual meeting.
- Urantia Societies (In General) -- Serve as the basic organizational building blocks of Urantia Brotherhood. Urantia Societies emerge from stable and mature study groups and function with great autonomy. These Societies, when formally chartered by the Brotherhood, elect delegates to the Triennial Delegate Assembly, who in turn elect the 36 members of the General Council, the governing body of Urantia Brotherhood. The General Council delegates much of the work of day-to-day administration of Brotherhood activities to a 14-member Executive Committee, which is elected from among Council members.

These formal organizations should be distinguished from:

- The Urantia Movement -- Which is a term used to describe all activities and organizations of all kinds, both formal and informal, that work toward the eventual achievement of the Urantia mission, within the framework of the Urantia revelation, whether or not actively identified with any of the formal Urantia organizations.
- Urantia Book Study Groups -- Which represent the basic organizational building blocks of the Urantia movement. Urantia Book Study Groups may be short-term or long-term in nature, and may or may not become actively identified with Urantia Brotherhood. Study groups provide both a framework for fellowship among believers, and a systematic method for enlarging one's understanding of the Urantia teachings by means of group study. A study group is usually a fluid and flexible, warm and open fellowship of believers who desire to share the experience of The Urantia Book with others and to discover new insights into ways they can better apply the teachings to their daily lives.

And all of these terms and organizations should be clearly distinguished from certain spiritual and social realities which become "visible" to individuals who are becoming spiritually transformed:

- The "Invisible Spiritual Brotherhood" -- A concept used to describe the class of mortals attempting to seek the Father's will, and do the Father's will, from the basis of any spiritual perspective that recognizes the primacy of the Father's will in the human heart. The term is a "passive" status identification that applies to all such individuals as a class. This should not be confused with (p.1863) "the supermortal brotherhood of invisible spiritual beings which prevails on earth and in heaven, the

superhuman kingdom of God." As the term has been used throughout the Urantia movement, "invisible spiritual brotherhood" refers to mortals throughout the world who have achieved advanced spiritual insight into the nature of reality, whether or not by means of the Urantia revelation. There is no social structure associated with the invisible brotherhood, nor any organization, either formal or informal. It is simply a status designation that recognizes "kindred spirits."

- The Brotherhood of Man -- Is the socialization of the "invisible spiritual brotherhood," the natural and inevitable consequence of recognition of the Fatherhood of God and the resulting sonship status of every mortal. The "brotherhood of man" represents the way in which believers relate to all other mortals, whatever their spiritual estate. The "brotherhood of man" does not exist, except in the hearts of such believers. It comes into existence only by actions dominated by love, mercy, and ministry. It is a measure of the extent to which the love of God has become rooted in the human heart.
- The Kingdom of Heaven -- It is probably utter presumption to attempt a brief definition of a concept that Jesus explained clearly and at length, with only moderate success. As Jesus described it --
 - "The kingdom is within you," it is an inward process of spiritual growth centered in living faith;
 - It "must begin with and be centered in the dual concept of the truth of the Fatherhood of God and the correlated fact of the brotherhood of man;"
 - The kingdom always embraces "man's personal experience in relation to his fellows on earth and to the Father in heaven."

All who have found living faith in the Father in heaven and who are willing to act out the consequences of that faith have entered the kingdom of heaven. While entrance into the kingdom is by faith alone, growth in the kingdom is a process of attainment of ever-deepening relationships of loving service to one's fellow man, and ever-expanding harmony with the will of God in every aspect of living. In short -- the kingdom of heaven = the kingdom of God = the will of God. And this concept can apply equally to the growth of an individual or the evolution of a planet.

And perhaps, if the Committee feels adventurous, it could attempt additional definitions that might help new believers navigate through the bewildering thickets of organizations, issues, concepts, and ideas that all have to be understood in a new light. "Cult," "sect," "church," and "religion" come to mind. The objective of these definitions would be to help newcomers develop a better understanding of what it is they are joining, and what it is they are not joining.

Please feel free to disagree with any of the beginning definitions I have presented. All of them can become more precisely focused as the result of challenging discussion.

What Are We Evolving Toward?

Because you asked this question in the context of the Committee's search for a guiding philosophy of membership, I would like to approach it from three perspectives that all can be focused on the membership issue --

- Major stages of growth in the evolution of the Brotherhood,
- Major problems we will face, and
- Major characteristics we will have to develop as an organization if we hope to succeed in the mission with which we have been entrusted.

Visualizing the evolution of the Brotherhood in stages does not make your task any easier, but it does help clarify the differences between the permanent interests of the Brotherhood and the more temporary subsidiary interests that may become important at one stage of growth, but less important at some other stage of growth.

Looking briefly backward, and then attempting to look far ahead, here is what I see:

- Stage I -- Implanting the Revelation

When the Revelatory Commission decided to implant the revelation in Chicago -- identified throughout the world as the gangster capital of the planet -- it demonstrated brilliant levels of creativity, courage, and faith in the ultimate victory of the mortal races over their own worst tendencies. I continue to salute the Commission for the added degree of authenticity this lends to the revelation.

Stage I is perhaps the easiest to define; it encompasses all of the activities that finally led up to the initial publication of the Urantia papers. During these years the Urantia "movement" required spiritually steadfast individuals who could keep secrets, ask a lot of questions about realms of the unknown, remain patient, and maintain a steady and reliable commitment to stay in the group over a prolonged period of time in which there were no measurable results of their activities.

While this stage of growth formally ended in 1955, the lines of demarcation have been fuzzy. We are still in the process of stepping into our new evolutionary role.

- Stage II -- Developing a Firm BASIS For Worldwide Growth

This is the stage of our growth in which the fundamental directions of the Urantia Brotherhood will be established for a long time to come. The basic task of this stage of our organizational mission is to transform the Brotherhood from an essentially white, middle class, Christianized movement to the beginning of its larger destiny as a worldwide fellowship of believers. The emphasis is on the word "basis," and all that it implies.

Because this is the stage of growth that most clearly affects the immediate direction of your task, I will outline specifically the types of things we have to do over and above our primary mission of disseminating the Book and developing study groups:

- First and foremost, we have to build a Brotherhood on the basis of Jesusonian attitudes, a Jesus way of thinking, acting, and doing, taking our direction from the inspiration of his life and teachings every step of the way; without this, we can do nothing. To the extent to which this notion becomes imbued in a membership philosophy, we will be looking for spiritually transforming individuals who are willing to follow the pathway of truth wherever it leads them, who are willing to make the brave attempt actually to live the teachings according to their ability.
- Second, we have to get our goals and priorities straight, and be able to express our goals in clear and simple terms.
- Third, we have to develop orderly and systematic plans based on these goals so that we are marshalling our energies effectively. There are three kinds of planning that we have to do, each one of which is based upon a different set of skills and techniques:
 - Strategic planning:
 - Long range planning as such, and
 - Short term strategic planning that has long range impact;
 - Short term planning (annual planning and budgeting), and
 - Contingency planning (situation-based, rather than time-based reaction plans, developed ahead of time, that will enable us to react in a wise, orderly, swift, and coordinated way in the event of any kind of action or event that could seriously jeopardize our ability to continue forth on our mission).
- Fourth, we have to modify, or redefine, our constitution and organization structure to whatever extent necessary to ensure that our organization structure will enhance, rather than inhibit, our ability to carry out our mission. Some criticism has already been raised that I believe the General Council has dismissed too swiftly, that asks in effect whether the organization of Urantia Brotherhood is consistent with the revelation it supports and with our mission.
- Fifth, we have to develop a decision making process that focuses on what we have learned from the Urantia teachings, rather than on what we do in our day to day living. To give you an example of what I mean, there are three basic ways in which groups make decisions:

- The political approach, which is based on power relationships, persuasion, manipulation, surprise, leverage, coalition formation, and other evolutionary methods designed to achieve the will of individuals within a group;
- The consensus approach, which is designed to achieve the will of the group as a whole, but must be used with caution; and
- The spiritual approach, the technique of spiritual progress in which, like Jesus, all individuals within the group honestly seek to know and do the Father's will in reaching group decisions.

The way we make decisions will both influence the kinds of members we attract, and in turn be influenced by them as they participate in the selection of leaders.

- Sixth, we have to begin the process of leadership development throughout the Brotherhood, and do it in an orderly way. There are at least three kinds of leaders we need:
 - Teachers and communicators,
 - Study group organizers, and
 - Managers and administrators.
- Seventh, we have to develop sustaining strength in as many Urantia Societies as possible so that, in the event of a "worst case" scenario, any given Urantia Society could, if necessary, regenerate the Urantia movement. (You might think of this as a "crabgrass" approach.)
- Eighth, we have to develop a strong and healthy financial base to support worldwide growth, together with strong financial controls;
- Ninth, we have to develop a method of communication and coordination that enables the Brotherhood to function as a unified organization, and yet does not develop a heavy hierarchical structure. The traditional "pyramid" structure of management organization cannot be adapted to our mission without pointing the Brotherhood dangerously in the direction of a bureaucracy, even a "church." Our organization has to remain essentially flat, fluid, flexible to succeed. What ordinary organizations accomplish efficiently by "chain of command," we have to learn to do by means of a superb system of communication and coordination of activities throughout the world.
- Tenth, but among our highest priorities, we have to develop a global outlook and character throughout the Brotherhood. This simply cannot be done without a continuing base of translations of The Urantia Book in language after language, and a well-founded belief by our brothers and sisters in all lands that we want to help them achieve this in every way possible. But our development of a global outlook and an international character does not stop there. There is much, very much, that we can do to take the steps required.

This is not intended as a complete list; rather, it suggests some of the things the Brotherhood ought to be working toward at this stage of development. Applied to a membership philosophy, the continuing focus of these comments is on individuals who have not only read the Book and believe in its teachings, but also understand the nature and special mission of the Brotherhood and are willing to work actively to achieve it.

As we attempt to build a strong foundation for the growth of the Brotherhood, it would be wise for us to remain keenly aware of our religious history, so that we do not blunder into a repetition of the mistakes.

This stage of evolution may come to an end when there are about a million members in the Brotherhood. Some of the things that have to be done can be done right away; others are more likely to take "decades," even "lifetimes." The litmus test of the Brotherhood's accomplishment will be whether it has become correctly poised for tremendous growth.

- Stage III -- Beginning of the Worldwide Mission

After all of the long decades of preparation, we have been taught that the "worldwide mission" of the Urantia revelation will begin. There will be a "ripening," in that large numbers of people will begin the search for truth, beauty, and goodness as the primary values of living. The Urantia Book must be accessible; study groups must be in place and accessible; teachers and leaders must be functioning throughout the world. Compared with all of the earlier years, this will be a time of tremendous growth for the Brotherhood. It is not difficult to imagine tens of millions of members in the Brotherhood during this period.

- Stage IV -- Shakeout

The Urantia papers have convinced me that there is always a shakeout period. There seems to be some evolutionary necessity for it. In the future of the Brotherhood, it will probably be the shuddering response to some kind of calamitous event that sends everyone scurrying toward shelter except the spiritually stalwart. Membership will drop dramatically. It may even appear that the revelation has "failed" in its mission. The movement will be reduced to a strong central nucleus, a "hard core."

- Stage V - Rebuilding and Sustained Growth

Those who have remained steadfast and unshakeable will now begin the long process of rebuilding, but this time what is built will be steady and lasting. The pace of growth will be sure and the Urantia movement will then eventually include many hundreds of millions of people throughout the world. This will be the time when the revelation at last begins to flower with spiritual brilliance on the planet.

I'm not sure what happens next. Before Stage V is finished we will be many hundreds of years into the future, ready for the sixth epochal revelation. And far beyond that, entry into the initial stages of light and life.

The problems we have faced up to now in the development of the Brotherhood should be regarded as basic training for the larger and more difficult problems still to come. Some of the difficulties we are already experiencing, or are bound to experience in the future, are:

- Membership Philosophy. The very question your committee is now grappling with, but still has to resolve and then implement. Whatever guidelines are established and approved will have to be at once (a) fair to every individual, (b) based on, or at least consistent with, the Urantia papers, and (c) aimed at helping the Brotherhood achieve its short term and long term goals and objectives. This is a tall order. To illustrate by just one example, consider the following. There appear to be two major schools of thought among Brotherhood members right now with regard to a philosophy of membership. On one hand, there are many who believe that we should accept almost anybody who applies, in the belief that "he who is not against us is with us," and that Urantia Brotherhood in fact is basically a spiritual brotherhood. On the other hand, there are many who believe that these are very dangerous years in the evolution of the Brotherhood, and that we should focus on "quality" of membership; if we are not careful about whom we let in, sooner or later some individuals or groups are going to do something that seriously affects our ability to achieve our goals. My guess is that the majority of the present leaders of the Brotherhood support the second opinion. But for reasons that I have outlined earlier, I think our correct pathway is somewhere between these two ideas, and will probably rest upon an "essential minimum" number of requirements.
- "Church" vs. "Leavening" Orientation. It is not that Brotherhood members think of the Brotherhood as a "church" -- although I have met some who do -- it is more that there are subtle, but profound, pressures within the Brotherhood which, if not re-channeled, could bend our evolutionary path toward "churchiness." And the constitution does not help. It still calls for "Certified Leaders" and "Ordained Teachers." And our basic statement of purpose in Article II (as beautiful as it is) could still be read as suggesting that Urantia Brotherhood perceives of itself as the social nucleus of a new religion (not a church, but a religion). We call ourself "a social group with a religious objective." But when carried to its logical conclusion, the "religious objective" ultimately is a spiritually transformed world that has been transformed on the basis of the Urantia teachings (the ultimate ramification of the process of "leavening"). To complicate this situation, I have met with at least one group of Urantians that is actively raising funds to build its own building ("church") and in time pay someone ("minister") to prepare for & lead study group meetings. Such pressures will be with us for a long time, but we can help re-channel these energies into a powerful leavening force if we encourage individual members to find a religion they are comfortable with and become active in it, while they are at the same time working actively within the Urantia movement. Further, the concept of leavening ought to be extended to every human occupation, every human institution. There is always a "next step forward." Any philosophy other than a clear philosophy of leavening at this stage of our growth is bound to lead to open confrontations with all other religions, and will be debilitating to the Urantia movement.

- A Constantly Embattled Organization. One might hope that an organization like Urantia Brotherhood would be all sweetness and light. But we know this is not to be our destiny. In the very beginning we were told that "not in 2000 years" has an organization appeared on the planet that will so much become the object of control by competing groups and individuals. As I look ahead as realistically as possible, I see power struggles from within the organization continuing to afflict us for a long time to come. The danger signs that I have learned to recognize are:

- Ego,
- Impatience, and
- Self will.

Together, these things are like a three-headed monster. To the extent to which a guiding philosophy of membership can recognize three-headed monsters before they are inside the gates, I would recommend that we shut the gate as tightly as possible. I would not be concerned about any competitive organization launched by such individuals.

In the meantime, Urantia Brotherhood will face a continually escalating series of attacks from without as various religious groups begin to feel threatened by our growth and dynamism. Right now we are the subject of such attacks by certain fundamentalist groups. But in terms of what is to come, I think we will later regard these attacks as mild skirmishes.

In time we will come under political attack as well.

- Nationalism. The greatest obstacle we face in our evolution toward a worldwide fellowship of believers is the virus of nationalism. People in other lands and cultures are extremely sensitive about anything that smacks of American "dominance." And the fact that the revelation was planted in Chicago somehow becomes associated in their minds with old concepts of "yankee imperialism." Even while we remain completely apolitical, these sensitivities persist. The slightest word out of place, the slightest thought that might be construed as a hint that the Americans feel they are in control of this revelation, is likely to set off strong counter-reactions. This is likely to be a long-lasting problem.
- Maintaining Social Harmony. By definition, as we have been taught, we already have spiritual unity. Our problem is to maintain social harmony within the framework of our larger unity. This will become especially difficult because of internal political conflicts and anti-American feelings of nationalism among many of our brothers and sisters in other lands.
- Difficulty in Attracting Blacks. The discussion of race in the Urantia papers is a tinderbox that we will have to be prepared to face. Very few blacks can yet be found in the Urantia movement. In some way we will have to be Jesusonian enough so that blacks who are in doubt will know that we know that we are all spiritual equals in the eyes of the Father in heaven, and all brothers and sisters in the worldwide family of God.

- Over-Organization. I have already mentioned this in another context, but it bears repeating. There seems to be a natural tendency to over-organize. We must search our experience and wisdom to find ways to get our work done without creating a big bureaucracy that paralyzes the creative energies of the organization.
- Major External Discontinuity. Nuclear war (see p. 1490), political upheavals, economic chaos, world famine -- pick your favorite scenario. Without resorting to the method of thinking of the "survivalists," I think we could probably agree that some form of major discontinuity will beset us that will temporarily cause us to re-focus our primary energies simply on continuing to exist. This is why we need to develop contingency plans with cool heads, so that we can deal with whatever it is in an orderly way when things get hot.
- Decision on Where To Build a Permanent World HQ. The Brotherhood is likely to have several temporary headquarters after the decision is made to leave 533 Diversey Parkway. In time we will have to face the decision regarding where to build a permanent headquarters. I think this topic is much more complex than it seems, and these complexities will not become apparent until the decision process really gets underway. I have some ideas of my own about this, but will save them for another forum.
- Failure To Live the Teachings. Lack of living faith. Half-heartedness. Lack of spiritual courage. "Intellectualism" instead of spiritual dynamism. Etc. If we can overcome this problem, we can lick every other problem we face, no matter how disorganized we are, no matter how formidable the problem. My thoughts keep coming back to this issue again and again as the central problem we face as a Brotherhood, now and in the future.

Notwithstanding the magnitude of the problems we face, I have a steady faith that Urantia Brotherhood has the inherent strength and wisdom to overcome all difficulties and eventually succeed in its worldwide mission. I have already seen the hand of God at work within the Brotherhood and have already witnessed the Brotherhood transcending its apparent limitations in the way in which it has risen to formidable challenges. We have within us the power of God, to see clearly, to act with wisdom and decisiveness, with love and mercy and ministry, and with abiding strength. The Urantia revelation has enlarged our capabilities to deal with events beyond anything we may have ever thought possible. We can actualize our potentials.

In time, Urantia Brotherhood will develop characteristics that begin to identify the organization as one that is unique among human institutions. I am not attempting to personify the Brotherhood, only to suggest that as we evolve, we will take on a certain tone and coloration in what we do and the way we do things that will identify the organization in general terms.

In what I have written to you so far, some of these characteristics have been noted, such as our attempt to "live the teachings," and our development of a "global outlook" and our "leavening approach" instead of confrontation and competition. I will not dwell on these further here, but simply add a few thoughts to the list.

The time is the 21st century. We have journeyed forward to listen to a conversation. Someone who has been studying Urantia Brotherhood, but who has not yet made the decision to look into the big blue book its members spend so much time with, is trying to help a companion understand something about the nature of the Brotherhood. Here are some excerpts.

"Everything they do appears to be designed to foster individual growth -- That seems to be their sole purpose for existence."

"It is inspiring to see them with each other -- They love each other with a new and startling affection."

"There is a strong and powerful sense of spiritual centering everywhere in the movement -- It seems to be the result of individual and group prayer and worship and their dedication to the service of others, even their enemies -- They have what I can only describe as an amazing devotion to the service of mankind."

"Yet, they are simple and unadorned in style -- You might say "uncomplicated."

"There appear to be no links anywhere in the organization to politics, governments, or national cultures as such -- Yet they live within the laws of each land."

"They manage themselves well -- Their focus is on opportunities, not problems. They think ahead."

"There is kind of a fierceness about them -- not a grimness, but a fierce determination to seek the will of God and to do the will of God -- And let no man stand in the way."

"There is no other organization in the world that looks so much like a human rainbow -- They are spreading to every corner of the planet."

"They are truly the followers of Jesus. Their faith in God seems to have no human boundaries."

This is the kind of Brotherhood we will in time become.

In concluding these comments and suggestions, I will go back to something Bill Sadler Jr. said a quarter of a century ago. The focus he placed on our priorities as an organization can serve as a most valuable and continuing point of reference for the Charter Committee as it weighs the many issues involved in the development of a guiding philosophy of membership in Urantia Brotherhood. Bill reminded us:

- God is the only true end.
- The Urantia Book is a means to the end.
- Urantia Brotherhood is a means to the end.

I salute the God within you, and send you and the Committee my warmest regards.



Paul Snider (4/11/82)

REPORT OF FRATERNAL RELATIONS COMMITTEE
TO GENERAL COUNCIL OF URANTIA BROTHERHOOD
JUNE 27, 1982

The Fraternal Relations Committee is continuing to study the relationship of URANTIA Book readers with other religionists. We have agreed that one of our purposes is to foster the education of readers about world religions. Another purpose is to study ways of enhancing relationships of URANTIA Book readers as individuals, and as groups, to other religionists as individual believers, and as groups. These purposes are being carried out in several ways:

1. We are encouraging readers to pursue the study of world religions through academic study and first-hand association.
2. We are seeking out persons in our movement who have experience with various religions, and invite them to share their knowledge at workshops and conferences.
3. We are "bringing" the wisdom of the leaders of world religions via tape and film to workshop audiences.
4. We are seeking the advice of persons in the movement who have experience in interfacing with other religionists; in mainstreaming URANTIA Book concepts; and in outreach activities with organized religions.
5. We are culling from The URANTIA Book the guiding principles on how to relate to religionists in present-day reality situations.

Our 1982 workshop program reflects all aspects of the foregoing plan and purposes:

1. A 30-minute slide-tape of excerpts from interviews with, and lectures of, leading religionists. A follow-up session will explore further the thought of these and other leaders. We will be looking at the vitality that impells their religions. Bettina Gray and Vern Grimsley will lead this session.
2. Jim McNelly is presenting a study of sects and cults that have, as the basis of faith, the phenomenon known as auto-revelation.
3. Philip Rolnick is reviewing the advanced truth concepts to be found in current-day Judaism.
4. A study of Mainline Protestant Christianity, including trends guiding its future development, is being presented by Sally and David Schlundt.

We welcome ideas from all of you on how the committee can best facilitate its programs.

Carolyn B. Kendall, Chairman

Carolyn Kendall

1982 Report of the Domestic Extension Committee

The past year has been an active and pleasurable one for our committee. The following projects have been worked on:

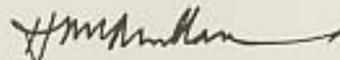
1. The study group questionnaire project was completed by David Kulieke, with the help of Cece Forrester, Mary Burton and Gerry Hahn.
2. A project to catalogue and assemble materials of interest to societies has been begun by David Kulieke.
3. A project directed by Tom Allen to place books in libraries is strongly underway, with 84 books either placed or in the hands of volunteers committed to placing them in libraries.
4. A report suggesting methods of increasing sales of URANTIA Books was completed by the undersigned.
5. Our committee is participating in the 1982 summer workshops with an excellent program designed by Mary Burton.

A fuller description of these activities was given in the most recent issue of the URANTIA Bulletin.

The committee would appreciate any comments by Councilors on two issues which will concern it in the upcoming year: how can we stimulate broader distribution of The URANTIA Book and, how can we help study groups? As to the latter, the problem is not only to foster new groups, but to help stabilize existing ones. We aren't making progress if we gain 15 new groups, but 16 of our existing groups fall apart for one reason or another. What can we do to give the study groups not associated with societies more of a sense of belonging to our fellowship?

I extend grateful thanks to David Kulieke, Gerry Hahn, Mary Burton, Cece Forrester and Tom Allen for their work on the committee during the past year.

Respectfully submitted,



Harry McMullan, Chairman

June, 1982 Report of The International
Fellowship Committee to the General
Council of URANTIA Brotherhood

Our Committee has seen significant developments since our last report to you.

The IFC sponsored a meeting at the Snowmass Conference in Colorado last year as well as hosted a reception for our international friends and other attendees where good fellowship and conversation prevailed.

In October, we met in Chicago as Christy's guests for a very meaningful two-day meeting. The Committee has continued to request the participation of advisors, this last meeting enjoying the happy presence of Mr. Jacques Dupont and Mr. Alain Le Corvec of Paris, France; Mr. Ron Louie of Vancouver, B. D., and Emmanuel Lou of Tahiti. Mr. Chick Montgomery, although unable to be present, sent a number of important proposals and was certainly with us in spirit as were a number of our French-speaking friends from Quebec who were unable to be present. The first day Christy gave a sumptuous luncheon for us all and throughout our meetings added much to the festivities with her happy smile and good sense of humor.

Lynne Kulieke shared slides and stories of her recent experiences, including her trip to Spain, and this was augmented by Dick Prince's observations and shared experiences with Spanish-speaking groups. Barbara Kulieke also shared her ideas with the Committee regarding international publications. Frank Sgaraglino directed the Committee's attention to the more immediate realities of Brotherhood finances and fund raising.

One important discussion of the Committee centered on the policy of making gift books more readily available to our international readers. A copy of the explanatory memorandum offered to the Executive Committee is attached for your interest.

As a result of our discussions and following our meeting, the plan for actualizing international library book placement was further defined and it is now in place, ready to go, having been approved by the Executive Committee. A copy of the memorandum describing this program is attached for your information, although in the interests of brevity the memorandum's attachments are not. We expect this program largely to be implemented in full in the coming year.

Study groups are increasingly evident the world over. Marvin Gawryn gave our Committee a most interesting overview of the developments in India, a country with a rich non-Judeo-Christian religious heritage and an ever increasing manifestation of a deep religious thirst. There are now at least seven study groups there, with a total of thirty-five participants, twenty-one of them of Hindu background.

One of the biggest events this year was the announcement of the renewed availability of the French translation. There is already a great flurry of activity in many French-speaking areas including Quebec, France, Belgium, and Tahiti. More information on study groups will be available at this summer's IFC workshop program.

In closing this report, I should like to express our appreciation and gratitude to Christy for all she did in her life of ninety-two years, faithfully carrying out her trust, helping to insure that The URANTIA Book would be available to all peoples of the world. Christy was especially eager that we make our own home available for the meetings of the International Fellowship Committee, always interested in hearing our deliberations and sharing fellowship with each of the attendees. We will sorely miss her, but now will rededicate ourselves to the grand task before us which she was instrumental in helping so literally to make possible.

As my term both as member and Chairman of this Committee is expiring, this will constitute my sixth and last report to you as Chairman. Notwithstanding the apparent difficulties and misunderstandings encountered in the administration of this office, it has been an unqualified honor and pleasure to have so served. No Committee could have done all that we did were it not graced with dedicated members and advisors to each of whom I give now my sincere and hearty thanks. The last six years have seen a real growth in our Committee, and I believe it is positioned better than ever before to carry on effectively in assisting with the international dissemination of the teachings of The URANTIA Book.

The International Fellowship
Committee of URANTIA Brotherhood

By: Martin W. Myers
Martin W. Myers
As its: Chairman

Attachment

URANTIA BROTHERHOOD

INTRA-OFFICE MEMORANDUM

FROM Martin W. Myers, Chairman
International Fellowship Committee
Executive Committee
TO
CC Members of International Fellowship
Committee

DATE November 20, 1981

SUBJECT

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, 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 mistranslations.

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 recommendation(s) 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.

MWM/jm

November 16, 1981

TO THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF URANTIA BROTHERHOOD

cc: Members of the International Fellowship Committee

Re: Proposed IFC Policy for Gift Books to Individuals

This memorandum is in response to the request of at least several members of the Executive Committee who asked for a more detailed written report of the above matter following my oral report at our last Executive Meeting.

After considerable discussion, the following motion was placed before the IFC at its last meeting during the week-end of October 10 and 11, 1981, and was passed unanimously.

"Moved that the International Fellowship Committee be funded to send gift copies of The URANTIA Book, at its discretion, to selected individuals outside the U.S. The International Fellowship Committee encourages leaders of study groups in countries outside the U.S. to make their need for URANTIA Books known to the committee."

The thinking of the committee can perhaps best be summarized as follows:

Often international study group activity is generated by individuals who need books but cannot afford them. (A good example is the situation in India.) There should be some mechanism whereby books could be donated to individuals for their personal use but in furtherance of a group's study activity. This method of dissemination is thought to be in addition and complementary to, and entirely consistent with, the Brotherhood's library book placement program.

The IFC felt that the program should be limited to the above and care should be taken that the proposed fund was not to be used just to give books to isolated individuals or other interested readers but only to those who had a well developed and stable involvement with the book and a commitment to the development of study groups.

(Continued on Page 2.)

November 16, 1981

Re: Proposed IFC Policy for Gift Books to Individuals

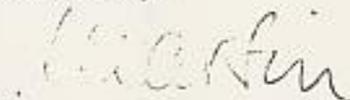
The IFC further proposed that the decision for the selection of the individual recipients be left to the IFC and that consideration of the donation of such gift books be a standing IFC agenda item. Under special circumstances, where a quick response to a request for a gift copy was desirable, the IFC Chairman could obtain a consensus from Committee Members before the next scheduled IFC Meeting by telephone or mail.

Of course, reports of the actions of the IFC would be made to the Executive Committee when and as action had been taken, and to the General Council as part of the Committee's Annual Report.

The IFC feels that the foregoing proposal if adopted and funded by the Executive Committee would be an effective way for further internationalizing the spread of the teachings of The URANTIA Book with concomitant development of study groups.

If you have questions or comments before our next Executive Committee Meeting, please feel free to call me.

Cordially,



Martin W. Myers
Chairman
International Fellowship Committee

MWM:kfm

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE EDUCATION COMMITTEE

TO THE GENERAL COUNCIL

MAY, 1982

The activities of the Education Committee over the past year can generally be divided into four areas:

- 1 - Immediate programs designed to carry out its charge "to find, prepare, and qualify teachers."

The Education Committee participated in the General Conference, June, 1981, at Snowmass, Colorado, presenting "workshop demonstrations" in order to familiarize readers of the Book with the annual workshop program sponsored by the committee.

In addition the committee has cooperated with other standing committees of URANTIA Brotherhood in the planning and organization of workshops to be presented in Lake Forest, Illinois, in June, 1982.

- 2 - Long-range thinking re: how to foster URANTIA Book study in the future.

The committee remains in the question-asking stage in this area. While general directions can be identified, answers have not yet been formulated at this time.

- 3 - Discussion of the committee's function and role with particular attention to a) titles and certification; b) relationship with educational programs not under its aegis.

The committee, after years of careful thought and preparation, is finally at the point of offering a constitutional amendment re: titles and certification, for the consideration of the General Council.

It has also proposed in writing, for discussion by the Executive Committee, various questions on the subject of the committee's relationship with educational programs, such as publications or schools, sponsored by groups or individuals not directly connected with the committee.

- 4 - Review of study aid requests.

All study aid requests specific and general, received by the committee, are submitted to the Executive Committee for consideration, which is, of course, always subject to URANTIA Foundation policy re: publication and distribution.

The committee, composed of Helen Carlson, secretary; Stephen Dreier; Marilyn Hauck; Marjorie Reed; K. David Schlundt; and Lynne Kulieke, chair, is indeed happy to have served in the ways described above and invites comment from the General Council in any area. We look forward to future service opportunities and the continued participation and guidance of the Council.

Respectfully submitted,

Lynne B. Kulieke

Lynne B. Kulieke, Chair
May 21, 1982

URANTIA Brotherhood Publications Committee
1982 Report to the General Council

The Publications Committee reports the following activities for each area in which we work:

URANTIA Brotherhood Bulletin

The Fall 1982 issue of the Bulletin will be trilingual: the English edition with photographs will be printed as usual, and French and Spanish translations of the text will be inserted for non-English-speaking and bilingual persons on our mailing list. We will evaluate the response; if favorable, we will continue. We hope that this will improve our contact with non-English-speaking readers and encourage them to put themselves on our mailing list. To minimize cost, we hope to use as many volunteer translators as possible and reproduce typewritten inserts on the Brotherhood offset machine. This approach was selected from among various alternatives which the Committee studied and discussed at length over the past three years, including a test French translation project in 1978-79. We considered issuing different editions in each language, but decided it was very important for all on our mailing list to receive the same news from headquarters. The English edition takes two weeks to print, and two-four weeks to mail (bulk rate in the U.S.), so we have four-six weeks to produce the translated inserts. We presented the plan to the International Fellowship Committee--their response was unanimously enthusiastic. The fall international issue will parallel the winter 1981-82 domestic issue. We are collecting reports written by persons from other countries for much of the content of the first trilingual issue.

Mark Kulieke continues to serve as managing editor of the Bulletin. Douglas Fraser will serve as Spanish editor and Carol Kostic as French editor when we begin trilingual publication. The Publications Committee as a whole plans each issue; Mark, Mike Painter, and I carry out the day-to-day work with the assistance of John and Marian. I heartily thank all of them for the work they do on the Bulletin. We averaged 3500 copies per quarter last year at a cost of 30¢ per copy including postage. We are still struggling with timeliness problems, but are improving. Timeliness will be critical when we begin trilingual publication.

Slide-tape History of the URANTIA Movement

The slide-tape was shown six times this year: the Northeast Conference in Connecticut, First URANTIA Society, Kansas City area conference, regional conference in Atlanta, Midwest Conference in Fort Wayne, and First URANTIA Society of Houston. This brings the total number of showings to 12 since August 1980. Approximately 1,000 people have seen it, several more than once. The evaluations continue to average "excellent." We have upgraded the slides, but the original tape remains the same. We have hundreds of specific comments and suggestions on the feedback forms. We will need to do some minor updating and editing, but feedback suggests that we should make only minor changes. We still have requests to translate it, to produce a written transcript, and to make it more widely available, but have not acted on these requests. The slide-tape has been shown at no cost to the Brotherhood. We plan to continue to show it as long as we receive requests for it.

Cooperation and Coordination Among URANTIA Movement Publications

In the Fall 1981 Bulletin we published a list of newsletters and journals in the movement. This is an on-going service we plan to provide at the request of readers and editors of movement publications. To date, there are 26 periodicals in the movement.

This year we will participate in the summer workshops for the first time; we held workshops at both the 1978 and 1981 General Conferences. Our 1982 seminar on the philosophy, policies, and procedures of movement publications grew out of a request for such a meeting at our last publications workshop. Our workshop on starting and publishing newsletters and journals is similar to the 1978 workshop we conducted. All Publications Committee members are involved in the 1982 summer workshops; I would like to thank Peter Laurence for his help in the conceptualization and development of our committee workshops. These workshops are a big help to us in our own publications and in keeping in touch with the needs of movement publishers.

A new and much-needed project is the development of a URANTIA movement style manual to answer questions which regularly come up when URANTIA Book readers are producing written material. This has been one of Nancy Grimsley's special interests and she will be doing a lot of the work on this project, which we hope to have ready as soon as possible. Nancy is especially helpful since she can represent the viewpoint of someone who must produce written material away from the headquarters. The committee also felt it important to complete such a project while Marian Rowley is still available to help us. French and Spanish editions will undoubtedly be needed too.

Brotherhood Publications

I worked with Marilyn Kulieke of the Special Projects Committee and the other committee chairmen to assemble and integrate the information for the 1982 Summer Workshops. With seven committees participating for the first time, this task was a little more complicated than usual. Mark Kulieke designed and supervised the printing of the workshop folders, as he has in the past.

The committee has a renewed interest in the possibility of making some study aids available and plans to work with the Education Committee during the coming year to determine the advisability and feasibility of study aids, such as the Brotherhood School textbooks which are currently out-of-print. There appears to be a need for us to review and consider Brotherhood policies and procedures concerning tape recording at conferences.

Media Relations

We have a continuing interest in promoting wise media relations and are sponsoring a workshop on media relations this summer.

Archives

We continue to collect material with the help of many, many people--all at no cost to the Brotherhood.

Barbara Kulieke

Barbara Kulieke, Chairman
Publications Committee

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE FINANCE COMMITTEE
TO THE GENERAL COUNCIL
June 27, 1982

During the past year the Finance Committee held two official meetings to accomplish the goals established last year.

The following is an update:

1. Budget

Goal: To prepare and monitor the annual budget.

Objective: To assist committee chairmen in preparation of their annual budgets. To keep each chairman informed quarterly of budget/actual expense of their committee. To request explanations of any large variances and recommend corrective action to be taken. To make recommendations regarding any additional requests for funds not previously budgeted.

Update: We prepared budget analysis forms for all committee chairmen to be used for the above stated objective. We have kept all chairmen informed quarterly of their budget/actual expense. The budgeted expense for 1981 was \$89,320 and the actual expense was \$85,792.

2. Mailings

Goal: To prepare and mail the solicitation letters.

Objective: To prepare the Foundation/Brotherhood annual and follow-up letters. To insure that they are mailed on schedule to all individuals on our mailing list.

Update: The letters were prepared and mailed on November 14, 1981 and May 15, 1982.

3. Audit

Goal: To determine if our current auditing charges are competitive.

Objective: To review our audit requirements with five or six auditing firms in order to determine if our current fees are competitive. To make recommendations to the Executive Committee based on this review.

Update: The following auditing team was selected to undertake this project:

Harry Rowley, Chairman	Berkeley Elliott
Art Born	John Hay

Their recommendations will be submitted to the Finance Committee by the end of the third quarter. The Finance Committee will make their recommendations to the Executive Committee prior to year end.

FINANCIAL DATA

7th printing update, at May 15, 1982

Printing Costs	\$176,778
Expense for Fund Drive	<u>3,601</u>
	\$180,379
Contributions Received	<u>178,938</u>
Balance Not Recovered	<u>\$ 1,441</u>

Brotherhood Update:

	12/31/81	12/31/80
	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Actual</u>
Expenses	\$116,304*	\$81,995
Contributions	53,024**	47,729
Cash Reserves	\$253,804	\$215,755

*Includes \$28,100 of recovered general conference expense.

**Excludes 7th printing contributions.

We welcome your criticisms and suggestions regarding the work of this committee.

Frank Sgaraglino
Chairman, Finance Committee

FS/rjm
5/82

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE SPECIAL PROJECTS COMMITTEE
TO THE GENERAL COUNCIL

June 27, 1982

This past year has been a very active one for the Special Projects Committee. One task we undertook was the preparation of a pre-TDA program which we hoped would promote the exchange of information relating to general concerns of the Brotherhood. Some of the concepts presented to the Executive Committee were later modified and incorporated into the "orientation session" planned for June 24, 1982.

Another activity in which we engaged was in some of the preparation for the 1982 workshops at Lake Forest College. The Special Projects Committee assumed the responsibility for site selection, negotiations, registration, transportation, and other similar duties.

The major task of the year was the marketing study delegated to us by the Executive Committee. Each of us researched various facets of the publishing industry. This was a very ambitious and challenging project; we enjoyed the responsibility and opportunity to offer recommendations for improving the marketing of The URANTIA Book.

A fourth area of activity has been the investigation of potential sites for the 1984 General Conference. Various locations, including George Williams College, have been considered, and two possibilities, Valpariso University and the Green Lake American Baptist Assembly, have been visited.

A final duty of the Committee will be the traditional General Council luncheon on June 27, 1982.

We are pleased with the service opportunities which have been assigned to the Special Projects Committee during this exciting year. My personal gratitude is extended to the current members of the Committee for their fine contributions. Thank you, Marilyn Kulieke, Carol Forysthe, Ruth Burton, Chick Montgomery, and Bill Hazen.

Respectfully submitted,

Charles R. Burton, Chairman

CRB/rjm
5/82



RECEIVED

MAY 14 1982

URANTIA

URANTIA BROTHERHOOD
533 DIVERSLY PARKWAY CHICAGO ILLINOIS 60614

WASSENAAR, May 8. 1982

HENRY BEGEMANN

Field Representative

Prins van Wiedlaan 38
Wassenaar-Netherlands
telephone 01751-16330
intern. 31.1751.16330

ANNUAL FIELD REPRESENTATIVE REPORT

HOLLAND

This has been a year of much progress in the work for the kingdom. The studygroups here are spiritually growing. Attendance is very regular, and new members are attracted. We only lost one couple that moved to an other place. Reading in Dutch has proven to be more effective for most people to grasp the deeper meanings of the text. English is, after all, a foreign language here, and most people who 'know' English, have only a limited knowledge of it, which, of course, results in a limited understanding of the meanings.

BELGIUM

Here too the studygroup in Brussels is doing well. There is good leadership. Recently new members have joined the group. I have visited them several times this year.

ENGLAND

The London group has not yet reached stability, though it has some excellent members. The main reason is that continually people are leaving London. It remains a mystery why our cause does not flourish more in England where there is no language barrier, while many books have been sold there over the years. I visit the group, and some readers in St.Albans rather regularly, about once every four months. St.Albans may develop into another studygroup.

FRANCE

In Avignon, in the south of France, is a good studygroup, spiritually alert and growing. Several members have a good knowledge of English and read the English text.

Paris remains a problem. Owing to the language, participation in a studygroup is difficult for me, and probably for the members too. I am now trying to brush up my french.

As far as I know the montnly studygroup of Jacques Dupont is still going on, but in how far it is efficient in fostering spiritual growth and insight, is a question difficult to answer for me.

It is too early yet to give an opinion about the reception of Le Livre d'URANTIA in France. However, it is a "free translation", as the title page informs the reader, which means a deviation of the original. A sincere revision is dependent on the consent of Weiss. I dearly hope that the conduct of the Foundation may not be such, that the consent of Weiss is being forfeited. France would suffer greatly thereby.

Henry

H. BEGEMANN
Prins van Nieuwlaan 3B
2242 CE Wassenaar
tel. (0)1751-16330

Wassenaar, May 19 1982

RECEIVED

MAY 26 1982

URANTIA

To the president of URANTIA Brotherhood,
533 Diversey Parkway,
CHICAGO Ill. 60614
U.S.A.

Dear John,

In my latest annual Field Representative Report, I forgot to mention Spain.

I know now of at least three studygroups there, the one in Sevilla, and two in the neighbourhood of Barcelona. A few months ago we visited one of the groups near Barcelona. This was possible for us because Albert Bakker, Bauk's brother, functioned as an interpreter. He speaks Spanish fluently and lives in Vinaroz, between Barcelona and Valencia. It was a joyful experience for us to meet these wholly unknown people that very soon manifested themselves as true brothers. We shared our common love for the Father and our interest in spiritual reality. My brother-in-law keeps in contact with them as he also does with the friends in Sevilla.

Of course they dearly miss a Spanish translation. Few people there know a foreign language. If they do it is mostly French. Even a professor at Barcelona university, who was a member of the study group we visited, knew no English! So the students of our book in Spain try to help eachother with the Weiss translation. Why should not the Foundation do something to associate and synthesize the activities in Spain and South America to get a Spanish translation?

Cordially,

Henry



URANTIA BROTHERHOOD
531 DIVERSEY PARKWAY CHICAGO ILLINOIS 60614

Lewis A. Clark
Field Representative
243 S. Georgia Avenue
E. Wenatchee, WA 98801

FIELD REPRESENTATIVE REPORT June, 1982

Lewis A. Clark, Sr.

Idaho seems to be the most active part of our northwest area at present. I attended a mini-conference with several other members of our society last August 22 and 23, in the mountains north of Boise.

Several members of our society plan to attend a "gathering" in the Coeur d'Alene area the weekend of June 12 and 13. Alice and I will have an active part in this one.

Otherwise activity has been limited to letters, phone calls and visits.

We have started a limited-edition newsletter which we hope will bring people together by keeping study groups in touch, and maybe spark some joint meetings.

Field Representative Report - May 1982

Study groups in Brooklyn-Queens, North Jersey and Long Island continue to progress. Members of New York area study groups assumed responsibility for holding the Spring Northeast Regional Meeting. For many this was the first experience in planning and running a regional meeting. The group did an excellent job. These same individuals have shown increased willingness to take the time to meet with individuals making inquiry about The URANTIA Book, and associated local activities. All of this is reflective of the general increase in active participation which has characterized this year.

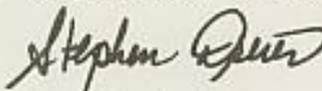
A stable study group is now meeting in the Philadelphia, Pa. area. Members of the New York groups have been making an effort to support this group by attendance at its meetings. Another group is meeting in the Reading, Pa. area, also supported by members of the New York groups. Two groups are currently meeting in Manhattan, but neither is yet stable and reliable.

The study group survey conducted by the Domestic Extension Committee has proved useful in putting individuals in contact with study group activity. It is suggested that this effort be continued.

There has been a noticeable decrease in the number of reference letters coming into this area from headquarters. It might be instructive to attempt to elucidate the reasons for this.

URANTIA Society of Central Connecticut continues to grow and mature, with members demonstrating increased interest in the welfare of the Society, and in the fostering of its mission to faithfully represent and disseminate The URANTIA Book and its teachings.

Respectfully submitted,



Stephen Dreier

RECEIVED

MAY 28 1982

URANTIA

REPORT FOR YEAR AUGUST 1, 1981 to JUNE 27, 1982

Out-of-State trips last year include Snowmass, CO; Chicago, IL; Austin, TX; Scottsdale, AZ; San Francisco, Berkeley and Sebastopol, CA; Kansas City, MO; Denver and Boulder, CO; Atlanta, GA and Fort Wayne, IN.

In-State special events include our Regional Forum at Fountainhead Lodge; Dr. Meredith and Irene Sprunger spent 5 days in Oklahoma City introducing The URANTIA Book to 4 ministers, 12 faculty members at Oklahoma City University, and Dr. Tom Boyd - professor of Philosophy at Oklahoma University; and an all-day Work Shop conducted by Larry Mullins on "Immature People With Power." Sixty people attended the Work Shop - many from out of State.

We shared our Multi-Media "Men of Clay - Children of Fire" at the General Conference at Snowmass, CO; Kansas City, MO Conference; and at Georgis's first Conference in Atlanta. "Pebbles of Truth" was shared with the Study Groups in Austin, TX and "Personality" was shown at the Boulder School.

Last fall we donated a URANTIA Book to El Reno Federal Prison, and a prisoner wrote asking us to meet and have a study group there - that he and a few others were interested. In January Harry McMullan, Clyde Lewis and I met with the prisoner, after going through the Chaplain to get clearance. We were given permission to come back weekly - a few days after our first visit - and the second week 4 prisoners were present. We continued having a regular 2-hour Sunday afternoon Study Group with these same four for several weeks - 2 from our Society meeting with them (we now have 12 people cleared through security), then they started bringing new interested people and today they have 32 studying, including 2 staff members from the prison. The "old hands" first give literature (Our Task & Leavening Our Religious Heritage), to new ones showing interest; meet and visit with them; check out a Book; then invite them to their mid-week study group; and if they continue to show interest and read, they invite them to the Sunday afternoon session.

Our Society and Asoka Foundation have donated several Books to their library and given many Books to the individuals, which they are now starting to pay for. The "regulars" are amazingly enthusiastic, knowledgeable and scholarly. They are well organized, have elected officers and leaders, feel service motivated and feel their lives are changed. The "leaders" are attempting to hold down the attendance - but they just keep coming. The President has been asked to lecture to the Muslims on the Fatherhood of God and the Brotherhood of Man; write an article for the Chicano group's paper on the same topic; and to meet with the Jaycees to help pull their group together. We feel this is a great out-reach program.

Our Father continues to give us opportunities to serve.

Sincerely,

Berkeley
Berkeley Elliott
Field Representative

Warm and loving greetings to each of you as I present this annual report for July 1981 through June 1982. I have helped plan, or have participated in about two or three meetings per week during this year. As the majority have been reported to John Hales, President, I will outline typical projects here.

Conference - Berkeley, Ca. - July 11, 12, 13, 14 with the Chauhans from India. India Deep import of 7 new study groups in India. Presented slide talk on "Study Groups Around the World". Later arranged for books to be sent them.

Brotherhood- Council - Chicago - July 29, Aug. 1, 2, 3. Three days at 533 Diversey.

Conference - Boise, Idaho - August 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25. Met first in Boise 2nd State with study groups, then drove 80 miles north to Two Rainbow Lodge Idaho for State Conference of three days. Then back to Boise - further meetings.

Orange County- Meeting Calif. - Anaheim - Sept. 7 - Two presentations - Children's group and adult groups.

Orange County- Meeting Calif. - Culver City - Sept. 26 - Jerry Lyle and others

International Fellowship - Chicago - October 9, 10, 11 - French and Canadian representatives. Led by Martin Myers.

Marriage and Family Class - Culver City - November 25 - Organization under Julia - at Julia's home. Julia and Gard Jameson.

Marriage and Family Class - Beverly Hills. December 8 - Gard's Apt. Three lessons.

New Study Group Conference - Fresno Ca. - January 23, 24. Lee De Mers - Led by Julia and Chick. New study group of advanced scholars.

Southwest Conference - Paradise Valley - Feb. 12, 13, 14 - Led by Larry Bowman Arizona. Franciscan Renewal Center

International Fellowship - Western Section - March 5 - Marvin Gawryn led. Princes and others attended. Culver City

Women's Corp Meeting - Culver City - April 14 - Led by Nancy Hoag and Polly Friedman. Julia's home. Planning session for future Women's Corps. based on Urantia Book.

Membership Orientation Meeting - Culver City - April 29 - Led by Lucile and Duane Faw. Julia's home - Julia presented slide talk.

Projected Attendance at Conferences

Oregon Conference Grant's Pass	Grants Pass, Ore.	May 14,15,16	David Clearwaters - 7th Annual Mtg.
Lake Forest School Conference	LakeForest, Illinois. June 29,30, July 1	June 28	Led by Brotherhood Committees.

OTHER URANTIA BOOK ACTIVITIES

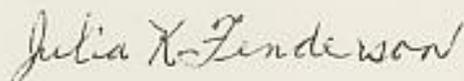
Visitors from Other Countries: Visitors stop here almost weekly from other countries, partly because we are near the International Airport (LAX) and also because I have frequently visited in other countries and because the URANTIA telephone is listed in the airport telephone book and the telephone is in my home. This gives us very informative contacts with U.B. students. Examples are Geri and J.J. Johnson from Saudi Arabia who will soon be visiting with their new baby boy David and 3 year old Michael. Douglas Fraser of Bogata and Texas visited here recently. Several have visited from China and we have placed three books there, two at the University and one with a private family. Our contacts with both Eastern and Western Australia continue and with India and Canada.

Visitors and Calls(Domestic): The greater amount of time is spent with helping U.B. readers from other localities in California and nearby states who wish to get contacts with other U.B. readers. I also help some of these people organize new study groups and strengthen existing ones.

Computer: The Apple Computer in my home continues to serve many purposes, such as putting out mailing lists. These ^{names} are easily retrievable and can be changed quickly. Bryan Soderberg owns and operates this computer to help all of us in our work.

Marriage and Family Study Group: This class is now operating on a weekly basis in my home with a new group every six months. Materials gathered on this topic are also mailed out by request to many study groups seeking help.

Julia K. Fenderson



Field Representative
Member of International Fellowship

Richard F. Prince, M.D.
1655 Los Altos Road
San Diego, Ca. 92109

RECEIVED
APR 26 1982
URANTIA

April 26, 1982

Executive Committee
URANTIA Brotherhood
533 Diversey Parkway
Chicago, Illinois 60614

Dear Friends:

As requested by Marian in her memo of April 15, this letter will be my annual report to you. Other than the usual response to letters sent by the Brotherhood and Foundation to readers in this area, the majority of my work has been focused outside the country.

I should begin with my work in Colombia. I was in Colombia two months ago, and John has a copy of my report (Feb. 10) which gives details of the situation there. In general terms, they continue working on a translation, as they have for the past five years. There is no longer any real study group activity outside this translation group, for reasons explained in my letter.

Not mentioned in that letter is the fact that there have been two valuable additions to the translation group, one a Colombian, the other an American. The Colombian, Carlos Camacho, has a degree in computer science from the University of Connecticut, speaks flawless english, and was a member of Nick Scalzo's study group for several years. The gringo is a very personable man named Dale Hall, who has lived in Colombia 12 years, has had the URANTIA Book for 1½ years and seems genuinely interested in it. I met him for the first time in February, and in fact, that was his first study group. Since that time, Carlos Zapata tells me that he comes regularly.

Having native speakers in both the original language and the target language finally gives the group the depth it needs, and can only help accelerate the process. Unfortunately, both men are quite busy in their professional lives, but their presence will undoubtedly help the final quality of the work.

Currently the group is exploring the possibility of using some secretarial help in transcribing the original handwritten text, and copying it for it's examination by the others in the translation group prior to their weekly meeting. I have offered to help them economically with this, and have discussed the mechanics of this with Tom Kendall in some detail. He can answer questions you might have about specific details. At this time I really do

not know what, if anything, will come of this offer. I have asked Carlos to talk with the group and have them decide what help, if any, they need. Douglas Fraser will be in Bogota sometime this summer on business, and will be with the group at that time. He will discuss with them what kind of help they may need, and how it might be arranged.

It should be borne in mind that, after five years, only half the fourth part has been completed. If their rate of work could be doubled with this kind of support, we are still looking at probably another decade of work to render the entire book into Spanish. In other words Frank, I don't see any Spanish language fund drives any time soon.

A second area of work I have begun this year is placement of URANTIA Books in overseas study groups. Specifically I get books by the case at the wholesale price. I have so far mailed 21 to Colombia and 7 to India. I take 3 or 4 books at a time to the post office, so that the recipient does not have problems with duty on a large number of books. The Colombians are then distributing the books in a variety of ways. The need is rather limited, of course. In India I have really just begun this project, having begun a correspondence with Rajan Chouhan. The need there seems enormous, and it is a real pleasure to send those books knowing that there are eager readers waiting to receive them. Rajan has told me, in a recent letter, that he has immediate need of 100 books, and the number he could use "is growing every day." I see this placement by me as a supplement to the proposed, but not yet activated program of the IFC to place books with study groups overseas. Even now there is more to be done than all of us have the capacity to do!

As always, I look forward to serving the Executive Committee in any way I can. Please let me know if there is anything else specifically you wish to know.

Sincerely,

Sick

Richard F. Prince, MD

RECEIVED

MAY 14 1982

URANTIA

May 11, 1982

To: Executive Committee

From: Helena Sprague

Re.: Annual Report

This year we have had the usual newcomers, many via Chicago. In the last four months, two groups, Barre, VT and Dover, NH, have been formed. We learned of numerous readers in or near Burlington, VT and have put them in touch with each other.

Stability of study groups is equal in importance to their formation. Over a period of years, six groups in New England have endured and continue to attract new readers: Hampton Beach, NH; Sherborn, MA; N. Harwich, MA; Farmington, CT (2); Darien, CT.

The Urantia Society of Central Connecticut in some ways serves all of the northeast. It has formally elected to sponsor two regional conferences a year, and to publish The Finaliter. The mailing list for these is now over 500, including eastern Canada.

Over the past eighteen months, I have taken leadership in small workshops at our church, (Congregational.) I constantly use concepts from The URANTIA Book, but do not mention it. On the side, I lend books if I feel the persons appear to be receptive. So far, four new readers have resulted.

Two concerns have absorbed considerable time:

Trudi Flourde, a member of U.S.C.C., has been left brain damaged by viral encephalitis. It now appears she will never fully recover her memory, but she has made remarkable progress. In the fall, she was sent to the West Coast to stay with her mother; she is now in the University of Washington Hospital Rehabilitation Facility in Seattle. I have kept in close touch with her, with the Probate Court, (Bristol, CT), and with the court appointed conservator, a member of our Farmington study group. Trudi asked for her URANTIA Book a month ago. The Society has also sent her, as a gift, Le Livre d'URANTIA, as French was her native language. I have asked Lew Clark for a contact among readers in Seattle, at Trudi's request.

Two years ago, the first of numerous followers of a Brother Julius in Bristol, CT made contact with me, via Chicago. Since then I have met about 20 of them,

and know that at least 50 own URANTIA Books. My early impressions were positive; the knowledge these people have of the Bible is impressive. Many had been active in this cult, which numbered at its height about 250 people, most in their 20's and 30's, for ten years. In his early teaching, Brother Julius stressed the New Testament, but he has slowly changed to the Old Testament emphasis of sin and punishment. From the beginning, he proclaimed himself the Second Coming.

Three years ago, Trudi Fiorde was introduced to Brother Julius by one of her nursing colleagues, and Trudi took him a URANTIA Book. He devoured it, (I have seen his tattered, marked up copy), called it 2000 pages of pure revelation, except for errors the midways made in Part IV. Julius is now the "Laster Son!"

Julius has long been the silent partner of a business man who operates a small empire in construction, solar heating and real estate; employees all follow Brother Julius. In the last six months I have been more than dismayed to discover that there are illegalities, extortion, blackmail and appalling liberties with the girls. There have been divorces laid directly to the authoritarian style, and at least one suicide attempt. Those who make moves as "no longer believers" promptly lose their jobs. They are also threatened with the devil.

I have had several long conversations with Brother Julius, an interesting experience. At one time he considered us prospects. His former followers tend to be gun-shy about any other "cult," but several have joined study groups, here or in Washington, CT. I feel sure there will be more, a comfort in some badly shattered lives.

It seems worthwhile to give you this background in case there are any sudden developments for which I need guidance.

1982 PRESIDENT'S REPORT TO THE TRIENNIAL MEETING OF THE GENERAL COUNCIL

John Hales

Once again we are gathered together as the highest deliberative body of URANTIA Brotherhood. On behalf of the old councilors, I extend warm greetings and congratulations to those of you newly elected to the General Council at yesterday's closing session of the Triennial Delegate Assembly. With your selection to this body, you have the opportunity and the responsibility to contribute the best that is in you to the work of the Council -- not that any of you would do less. There is a healthy diversity of thinking in this group, and please remember it is important for you to share your ideas with all of us on the topics before this body for discussion. I realize that due to the election process, you have arrived at this meeting on short notice and probably do not feel adequately informed about current Brotherhood business. Do not be discouraged, some of us share this same feeling. By your agreement to serve on the General Council of URANTIA Brotherhood, you have accepted a solemn duty to serve in the organization that has been established to foster the dissemination of the fifth epochal revelation of spiritual truths to mankind -- The URANTIA Book. While we should be serious about the work before the Council, I hope we will not take ourselves too seriously. Again, welcome to those of you joining us in service, the goal of which is nothing less than the world-wide realization of the Fatherhood of God and the brotherhood of man.

This past year URANTIA Brotherhood has continued to pursue both on-going activities as well as undertaking some new projects asked for at the last meeting of the Council. The committee reports that were sent to you earlier reflect this activity. In reading them, I hope you have come with questions concerning committee activity which will be discussed following this report. The Executive Committee continues its bi-monthly meeting schedule, beginning at 10:00 AM until about 5:00 PM. The agenda for these meetings is not necessarily of great length, but the views expressed on some topics reflects great diversity of thinking. It takes time to reach group decisions. It takes time to understand another's point of view. It takes time to reach a compromise.

On a personal note, we are all aware of the graduation to the mansion worlds of our good friend and co-worker, Emma L. Christensen, Christy, on May 2, 1982. Those who were able to attend her memorial service heard the chronicle of her years of devoted service to our cause. There are few who have willingly sacrificed so much in being steadfast to the end in carrying out their stewardship -- and with such a joyful spirit. Even now I have not fully realized she has gone on and that her absence from the Executive Committee meetings which she attended since 1955 is permanent. I am sure others share similar feelings. I was reminded at her memorial service of her three primary concerns drawn from many years of experience and stated with compelling insistence during her last months on our mortal abode, Urantia. First was insuring that the URANTIA revelation not fail. This will be accomplished by fostering thousands of study groups, by the unified work of the Brotherhood and Foundation in

protecting and safeguarding the revelation, and by providing translations.

Second was the world-wide promulgation of the teachings that all mankind are spiritual brothers, the sons and daughters of a loving God. And third was her concern for the spiritual unification of the URANTIA movement. Each of us must live the very truth we proclaim if we expect others to do likewise. We must overcome any anger, frustration, real or imagined injuries, by talking directly to the individual concerned -the Jesusonian approach. My salute to Christy and to her contributions to our work; may she even now be rejoicing in fellowship with her family and friends who have gone on before her.

Summary of Brotherhood Activity

At the last meeting of the General Council several tasks were given to the Executive Committee to study, take action, and report on at this meeting of the Council. One of these concerns the issue of "fair use" of copyrighted material from The URANTIA Book. The issue of having to ask permission of URANTIA Foundation to use any material from the book has been a time-consuming process. Under the so-called new, copyright law, it seemed possible to establish guidelines to take into account the request for more flexible use of material, at the same time, maintaining protection of the copyright. Since URANTIA Foundation is responsible for this area of work, I asked Duane Faw to offer whatever help he could on this project. You have received a copy of the Foundation's response to our request titled "The URANTIA Book Copyright Permission Guidelines" along with the covering letter of Tom Kendall, President, URANTIA Foundation. I wish to thank the Foundation trustees for this long awaited document. We will have time to discuss the guidelines later on today's agenda.

Another request of the Council concerned the drop in sales of The URANTIA Book. To study this, I requested that two committees, Domestic Extension and Special Projects, make independent studies in order to provide the broadest data base from which to draw some conclusions. You have copies of each of these reports, "Marketing The URANTIA Book," and "The URANTIA Book -- A Marketing Study." On behalf of the Council, I wish to commend all of those who participated in this project which includes societies, study groups, and many other individuals. They provide data upon which to make recommendations to increase distribution of The URANTIA Book. This is also on today's agenda for discussion.

The event that I would consider the most significant of the year came to fruition with the announcement of the reprint of the French translation of The URANTIA Book. A little over a year ago Duane Faw and I made a trip to France to hear the concerns of the French readers at not having books available. We returned to share this information both with the Council and URANTIA Foundation. Through the fall and winter months, the Executive Committee discussed with intensity and some passion the manner and methods that seemed most appropriate to help the French situation. Committee members conveyed their concerns and recommendations to the Foundation which included discussing with the translator plans for reprinting. I was given the announcement of the availability of Le Livre d'URANTIA (formerly titled La Cosmogonie d'URANTIA) just prior to the March meeting of the Executive Committee. Although there

were diverse opinions concerning the way the matter was handled, there was agreement that the Brotherhood should send representatives to Paris, France, and Montreal, Canada, to bring the good news of the availability of the translation to the French-speaking peoples of the world. The news was joyously received. More information will be shared with you later in today's business. There are two additional translation efforts. Our friends in Finland have completed the Finnish translation, an effort of some twelve years and three major drafts. What remains to be done is to complete a review process by a professional checker, and of course to obtain funding for printing -- no small task. The group in Helsinki is to be congratulated for the years of dedicated service. There is a Spanish translation which Tom Kendall has indicated the Foundation is in the process of checking concerning the accuracy and suitability of the language as well as their having to obtain some answers to legal questions. I have learned, as have many of you also, that the entire area of translations is an extremely complex process requiring us to take a long-range view of all such efforts. Notwithstanding any or all apparent obstacles, both the Foundation and Brotherhood should continue to actively plan for translation efforts. It is of central importance to our shared goal and reason for existence -- the world-wide promulgation of the URANTIA teachings.

Another significant area of work involves the project to locate and identify study groups. Started well over a year ago, the data gathered by questionnaires has finally been sorted and put into usable form. Although through experience there are some modifications of a mechanical nature to be worked out, the data provides a most important tool for purposes of referring new readers to groups and establishing a factual base upon which future planning can be made. When we establish a computer program, which we are in the process of investigating, access to this information will serve multiple purposes. Currently the study group project has been mainly domestic in nature. It will expand to become world-wide in scope.

My report today is by necessity selective in nature. The areas I have chosen to highlight are certainly not meant to slight any other activity,, either by departmental committees, societies, study groups, or individuals. On-going activities include the coming summer workshops and the many individuals who spend hours of effort to make this a worthwhile program. Regional conferences which have become regular events in many areas and provide the -- "first time I have ever met anyone I can talk to about The URANTIA Book" -- experience that new readers find so invaluable in meeting their desire for fellowship and inspiring personal study. Also included is the work of faithful study group leaders who ceaselessly carry on in helping the group to weather all manner of inter-personal tension and even conflict, to persevere even in the face of apparent defeat. This work is not for the faint-hearted. So much of this activity was somewhat unique ten years ago. Now we tend to view much of it as routine. It becomes more apparent to me that we are so close to these events, we cannot really appreciate their significance. However, we care and do appreciate the individuals who make these things happen.

In preparing this report, I have to anticipate that through the selection process of the Triennial Delegate Assembly (TDA), some who have served faithfully and loyally for many years are no longer members of the Council. I know the human response is to initially tend to feel a sense of rejection or loss. Upon reflection we learn to accept the fact that there are many who are able and willing to serve in the capacity of Councilor. For each one of us the time will come to step aside in order to let another have

this service experience. The TDA is the time provided to allow for orderly change in the Brotherhood leadership. For the Council I extend deep-felt thanks and appreciation for the service rendered to all who have retired from this body, for we stand upon their shoulders.

Today as we undertake the business before the Council let us do so with an attitude of unity amidst our diversity. Let us foster the spirit of co-operation that helps us hear the other's point of view, and accept the sincerity of motive in the hearts and minds of others while not necessarily being in agreement with their conclusions. And in doing this I am sure our elder brother Jesus is present to encourage us in our working together. The teamwork we effect is greatly augmented by friendly forces none of us fully understand. Yet we can appreciate the results of this co-operative process of finding solutions to our problems. Each of us has chosen to be "soldiers of the circles." It is the symbol of our dedication to do our part in our day to insure the success of the fifth epochal revelation. Let us do a day's work today, and let us do it well.

JHW/rjm 6/26/82

Respectfully submitted,

John Hales, President
