

David Kantor

July 8, 1975

Dear fellow workshop participants:

The following ideas are based on concepts which have resulted from my study of the Urantia teachings. However, they are the result of my own thinking and constitute my own interpretation of the factors which we are considering as a part of our efforts to lay the foundations for a brotherhood school. They are herewith submitted to you for your consideration and comment.

If there are just three aspects of universe reality, (things, meanings, and values) it would seem to me that education would involve facilitating the relationship between personalities and these realities.

Furtharmore, if the paradise ascent is our purpose, then must our education be related to that process. If the coordinates of our present time/space location in relationship to Paradise can be defined in terms of specific physical, mindal, and spiritual variables, it follows that the journey inward should track a specific sequence of such "locations"; a specific course charted through physical, mindal, and spiritual universes simultaneously and conjointly. Just as physical space can be traversed by foot, automobile, or starship, so should spiritual and mindal "space" be traversable in specific directions, towards specific objectives, by specific means.

It is my premise that one of the primary purposes of education is to facilitate this journey inward; to provide a cosmic map and travel instructions.

While the journey thru the physical universe appears to occur in specific jumps, as in our ascent from world to world, our journey thru the mindal and spiritual worlds seems to be a more gradual process which occurs during our stay on these spheres of physical space.

It can be seen, that if the above is taken as being relatively accurate, our education must comprise a balanced growth in meanings and values. An education focused on only one aspect would cause our thinking and growth to occur in an other-than-Paradise direction. Indeed, it is rumored that the universe is well nigh infinite and we could conceivably go off in a multitude of directions; however, I would maintain that the



direction towards Paradise is maximum universe reality (in this universe age direction being a more accurate indicator than location). Witness the attempts of Lucifer and associates to chart a self-conceived course towards a self-conceived universe destiny; they quickly plunged into the depths of confusion and unreality and in the process of so doing, very clearly revealed the way of death as contrasted with the way of life resultant from the pursuit of the Father's will.

This all brings me to the conclusion that our educational system must make a balanced two-fold outreach meeting the needs of minds and spirits, and not educating either one too far without making sure that the development of the other keeps pace.

We can glean from our culture and our experiences a variety of techniques for intellectual education and evaluation of intellectual progress, but I think that the real challenge confronting us is one of spiritual education. What techniques can be used to stimulate and evaluate spirit attainment? While we know that the bearing of the fruits of the spirit is an indicator of spiritual growth, what can we do to stimulate that growth in ourselves and in those whom we would serve? Must spiritual development be strictly a subjective effort? Is it possible thru intellectual training to assist the individual in creating an intellectual environment conducive to spiritual growth? While we know that we must discount the spiritual servcability of all thinking, how is thinking related to spiritual growth?

I feel strongly that these things need to be considered very carefully.

The intellectual content of the book is so superb, that we could easily get carried away with educating minds only, and I daresay that a proliferation of raw data relative to how many inhabited planets there are, or to the number of worlds containing non-breathers will do little towards bringing about the spiritual transformation which this planet so badly needs, the precipitation of which must be our primary concern.

See you in Chicago.

David Lenton