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FIELD-REPRESENTATIVE REPORT HENRY BEGEMANN. 1984/1985

NETHERLANDS. We are very grateful for growth here, qualitatively and quantitatively. Our studygroups meet once in two weeks and are very stable and meet regularly. The groups are rather small, about 6 or 8 people, also because we are used to sit around one table, with the books on the table, but another reason is that the capacity for intensive study is greater in a small group than in a big one. Besides, friendship and brotherhood, which should grow equally, are easier to realize in a small group.

There are seven groups meeting in The Hague and Wassenaar (a suburb in reality of The Hague). One of these groups comes from Amsterdam and meets there also. One group is under the leadership of a lady who herself is a member of two other groups here.

There are some other readers in other parts of Holland, who do not yet have their own studygroups.

FRANCE. Jacques Dupont reported about his periodical "Lettres", which is still going and in which he tries to foster the spiritual unity in our movement and advocates the copyright. He complains however about being rather isolated from many groups that keep more to Jacques Weiss and André Hiesse. But he is in contact with several French speaking people in Switzerland, which is a very good thing. We consider visiting Switzerland together this summer. His own group is going on regularly and there are a couple of groups in his neighborhood.

BELGIUM. Fernand de Vinck reported that the situation in Belgium is unchanged, his own group going on steadfastly. The attempt to form another group in the south of Belgium has not succeeded so far.

ENGLAND. The one regular group has become inactive, mainly because Nigel Hornby has moved to Norway. Another couple has moved to the west of England. It is remarkable that in the one country of Europe where there is no language barrier for our book, it proves to be so difficult to form studygroups. Another person is trying now, but I doubt if he is the right person for this.

NORWAY. Nigel Hornby reported that after much effort there is now a small, but apparently good group regularly studying together. Nigel has made a trip to Finland and was amazed about the activity there and the number of readers. There was a translation into Finnish already, but apparently not good enough, as it is revised now. The man who does the main work is won for the book and qualified for translation.

I regret not having the time to travel more, but my URANTIA work here occupies all of my time. Three studygroups and two translation groups attending every week, plus the work annex with it, limits my travelling. But the work is not in the least a sacrifice, to the contrary. Bauk and I regard ourselves as very privileged persons and we daily thank our Father for being given this opportunity to work in his vineyard.

May 7, 1985

Henry

REPORT OF FIELD REPRESENTATIVE - Lews A Clark

NOT RECEIVED



A new study group has formed in Holmdel, N.J., and is meeting regularly on a biweekly basis. Otherwise, there has been little substantial change in New York Metropolitan area study group activity. The two Manhattan groups which formed last year continue to function on a weekly schedule. One of these groups has volunteered to coordinate a regional meeting in November, 1985, and arrangements are already well along.

At the time I was appointed as a Field Representative there were few active readers of The URANTIA Book in this area. Virtually all contact activities from and to headquarters were handled directly by me. There are now many willing and experienced URANTIA Book students here, almost all of whom are routinely involved with referral and study group matters. Much of this work requires extensive personal interaction, somewhat unpredictable, often quite challenging and invariably time intensive. It is a most happy circumstance to have numbers of capable individuals sharing in these activities.

The mechanism by which information flows to and from headquarters has also changed. The presence of a local URANTIA society, along with several General Councilors, has made this function of a Field Representative somewhat redundant here. Several area persons now act as bi-directional channels of communication.


All of this is obviously good. Distribution of this work among many individuals makes it possible to do more, to benefit from variety of interpretation and style, and to provide a base for future continuity which is not available through a single person.

Given these happy circumstances, it seems to me that an official Field Representative is no longer required in this area. This feeling, combined with a personal uneasiness about unnecessary titles, has led me to decide to resign my position as a Field Representative.

Though submitting my resignation as an Field Representative, I should very much like to continue active participation in an untitled capacity, along with all of the other persons of this area who continually make themselves available for these activities.

My decision is based entirely upon local circumstances. In regions where resources are not as extensive as they are here, a Field Representative can be of great help in fostering interest in The URANTIA Book. I would like to see more appointments to this position. The Field Representative function has been a very productive one and ought to be used more than it currently is.

Respectfully submitted,





REPORT FOR YEAR AUGUST 11, 1984 TO JUNE 29, 1985  
Field Representative

June 16-17, 1984 - Tom Allen, Fred Farha and I went to Springdale, Arkansas - to Barry and Barbara Hester's. We visited the cave and attended a get-together with approximately 30 URANTIA Book readers Saturday evening. There are many in this group that have a great grasp of the truths in the Book.

August 11-17, 1984 - Many from Oklahoma attended the General Conference at Green Lake, Wisconsin. Our Society sponsored a program - as well as the Domestic Extension Committee and the International Fellowship Committee. It was a great Conference.

August 21, 1984 - Tom Choquette, from Anchorage, AK was our speaker for this important date and along with Tom was his wife Janna, Deborah Foster and Leanne Flickinger - all from Anchorage. One Hundred Thirty attended - several others from out of the City. We had good music and the attributes of Jesus that the Apostles liked best, personalized by 12 of our members. In addition, we took in 5 new members. Jesus' birthday is special!

September 28-30, 1984 - Tom Allen, Fred Farha, Harry McMullan and I drove to Gravois Mills, MO - The Lake of the Ozarks - to their first Conference. Harry and I gave talks and Tom helped with the music. It was all a result of the encouragement they needed - given by the Domestic Extension Committee - to start a weekly study group several months before, which had grown from 4 to 10 in attendance.

October 19-21, 1984 - was the date of our Regional Forum at the Center for Christian Renewal, on The Fruits of The Spirit. Eleven students personalized the Fruits of The Spirit then conducted work shops, with the help of local students. Gary Dangerfield did a summation and Paul Snider gave a talk on Unity. The music was extra good and it was a great Forum.

November 17, 1984 - Several from Oklahoma City and Tulsa attended the Mrs. Oklahoma contest in which one of our members - Janet Johnson - was a contestant. She won - in every department, as far as we were concerned - but the judges didn't quite agree with us. We all rode a bus from here, so it was a neat trip.

November 21-25, 1984 - Tom Allen and I flew to Asilomar - near Monterey, CA - to a big Conference, put on by the San Francisco Study Group, assisted by Santa Cruz, Peteluma, and other study groups. We went early and spent a couple of days with Lee and Mary Beth Rector. The setting was beautiful on the Pacific and we showed a couple of Multi-Medias - "Pebbles of Truth" and "Potential Enhancement for The World's Great Religions." We flew home Sunday. About 125 attended this Conference.

December 14-17, 1984 - Martin Peng flew in from Oak Ridge, TN to attend our Christmas party at the McMullan's. Jim and Linda McNelly drove down from Neodesha, Kansas and Lafollette and Christina Gray came from Westville, OK. Deborah Foster visited from December 2-7 - and went to school.

January 22, 1985 - Clyde Bedell died while having open-heart surgery. Clyde, as you know, is responsible for our Concordex. Larry Mullins and I flew out to his



Memorial Service at Boulder, CO January 26th. It was a celebration and very touching.

Charles Sadler, son of William S. Sadler, Jr. also died January 24th. He was Professor of History at a college in Macomb, IL.

February 3, 1985 - Wilma L. McManus, one of the Founders of our Society, died in a nursing home after falling and breaking her hip the last of last year. She also suffered several strokes. There was a beautiful service for her in the Westridge Hills Church of God - formerly the Universal Church - which she had originally helped to build for The First URANTIA Society of Oklahoma.

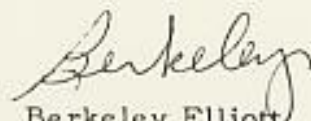
March 8-10, 1985 - Our spring regional Forum was held at Southgate Inn on The Inevitabilities. Nine students personalized these in speeches then led work shops, assisted by local members. Larry Mullins summed them all up in a great speech. The music was extra good and the skit done by Janet and David Johnson was much enjoyed. Sunday morning worship service handled by Barry Hester put the finishing touches to a great weekend. Harry McMullan - in addition to giving a good speech Friday evening, handled the entire program quite well. The weekend was special because so many special people gave so much!

Tom Allen and I attended the wedding of Karen Jackson and Matthew Reynolds (the daughter of Don & Dorothy Jackson). Don and Dorothy flew back from San Francisco (where they now live) for this very unusual and interesting wedding.

and I,  
April 12-14, 1985 - Fred Farha, Tom Allen, David & Janet Johnson drove to Springdale, AR and attended a get-together of the N. W. Arkansas Study Groups. Several readers came from the Parthenon area and many pitched tents Saturday evening and spent the night. We had a good meeting Saturday evening and a lot of music, then on Sunday morning cooked breakfast over a camp fire and had a Study Group meeting. Approximately 30-35 attended, plus many children. This is a growing group. There are about 4 Study Groups that meet weekly - and they made plans for all of the groups to get together at least monthly. Many of them live 3 to 4 hours apart. We love being with this group.

Certainly our Father gives us abundant opportunity to serve!

Sincerely,



Berkeley Elliott  
Field Representative



ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE TRIENNIAL GENERAL COUNCIL MEETING OF URANTIA BROTHERHOOD  
1984-1985

June 29, 1985

Field Representative

Julia K. Fenderson

Visitors and Calls: One of the important areas of service I am fortunate and delighted to do is responding to URANTIA Book readers from all over who either call or write or visit. Scarcely a day passes that I don't receive three or more calls, which concern everything from the renewal of warm acquaintances made during my travels to study groups and conferences around the country and around the world, to consulting on matters of Brotherhood and Foundation policy. I am humbled, and challenged, when I also get requests for help in solving personal problems or managing life crises. Together we search for answers to their questions and problems in The URANTIA Book and in the files I have collected for more than 30 years. The mail continues to bring a steady stream of requests for study aids, research materials, and the location of study groups. Visitors also continue to find their way to my doorstep for all of the above reasons.

Vern Grimsley and Family of God: In this year of 1984-85 the majority of questions and problems brought to me centered around the significant and complex circumstances at Clayton, California. The Foundation and Brotherhood policy letters of December 2, 1983, and December 15, 1983, respectively, proved of great value in referring others to the fact of non-endorsement by our URANTIA organizations.

There could be no accurate documentation of the confusion, sorrow, distress and economic losses caused by the Vern Grimsley messages. However, as many began to resign from FOG early last spring of 1984, this led the way for further examination and many more resigned later. As time goes on I can now see that the good will outweigh the harm. One evidence of this is that people are now carefully analyzing and checking every episode which might vary from the teachings of The URANTIA Book, and the policies of the Brotherhood and Foundation. In my 45 years of work with the URANTIA Movement I have noted that consistent effort has always been made by the leaders to avoid being connected in any way with occult or psychic phenomena or related cultic groups.

Conferences: I attended the conference at Monterrey, California, organized by CCCSUB, Central Coast Conference of Students of The URANTIA Book, on November 23-25, 1984. I gave the opening address on priorities for the URANTIA Movement as I see them. I am now helping the planning committee and furnishing some of the materials for the conference to be given here in Culver City, on "Preparation for Marriage and Parenthood", August 3-4, 1985.

Readers of the Southwest Pacific: French Polynesia (Tahiti and Moorea), New Zealand, Fiji Islands and Australia have been an area of continuing activity. Emmanuel Lou of Tahiti has been an indefatigable worker for The URANTIA Book activities, for both the French and English editions. He owns commercial plants in Tahiti and New Zealand and distributes his products widely in Australia and Fiji, so he travels there frequently. He speaks several languages, including French, English, Mandarin and several dialects of the Polynesian Islands. I strongly recommend that he be considered for the position of Field Representative for the Southwest Pacific, for five years. Even though he may be doing much of that work anyway, the title means much more in those areas than here and would give him more credibility for extended work there for the URANTIA Movement.



Neil Francey is another dedicated worker for the UB activities but he is confined more to the Melbourne area of Australia. In West Australia, Helen Condon is doing a tremendous service for UB Movement in placing books in libraries. Her reports go in regularly to John Hales' office. She lives and works in a suburb of Perth, Australia. I have continued contacts with the Balingup school and study groups which spawned there and since moved elsewhere.

Trevor Swadling and his wife continue to lead a modest study group in Sydney, on the eastern side of the Australian continent. Verner Verass has just written that he will soon return from Singapore with his wife and child to Sydney to rejoin Trevor's group.

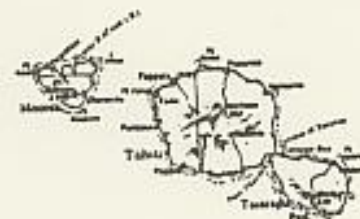
That area of the Southwest Pacific where I have traveled and corresponded extensively, and from where many of my visitors have come, looms greater each year in its importance in the URANTIA Movement. Fred Robinson, a very early pioneer led the way.



JKF/cra



SOUTHWEST PACIFIC



Respectfully submitted,

*Julia K. Fenderson*

Julia K. Fenderson  
Field Representative

1655 Los Altos Rd.  
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May 15, 1985

Executive Committee  
URANTIA Brotherhood  
533 Diversey Parkway  
Chicago, Illinois 60614

Dear Friends:

My activities over the past 12 months can be divided into three categories- which are local, long distance, and translation efforts.

Local activities are the usual sorts of answering letters, phone calls, etc. which we all do. No dramatic study group growth has occurred in the area, but the ones here continue to be consistent. I have also continued to maintain contact with readers in Tijuana, Mexico, which is only 20 miles from my home. Interest there continues to grow.

I continue to support and correspond with groups in India and Colombia, though have been to neither country in the last year. In India Mr. Chouhan now has many books. I believe the domestic turmoil of the last year has made his work there more difficult. I saw the same phenomenon in Mexico after the devaluation of the peso. None of us has time for this sort of activity when all our energies are being expended on survival. Sikh unrest continues, and I really don't know what this will mean to Rajan and other dedicated readers there.

In Colombia things continue to go well. There are two study groups in Bogota which meet consistently with readers who have been coming for years. Additionally, there has been a recent upsurge in new readers. All the readers there are eagerly awaiting the spanish translation. I will be going to Bogota in July for a week with Cheryl, and hope to be able to work on translated material while there.

In most of the capital cities of South America Douglas Fraser has one or more persons interested in receiving the book when it appears in Spanish. He has been able to nurture these contacts while on his frequent business trips there. I predict growth of readership will be very rapid once the book appears.

I hope to see some of you this weekend when in Chicago at a meeting with Euramerica's representative. Douglas and I hope this will remove the final obstacles to signing a contract and permit work to begin soon. He and I hope to sponsor a Pan American conference shortly after the printing of the translation in spanish, which would likely be in southern Mexico. Amazing possibilities lie beyond the printing of our book in spanish.

My best to each of you

Sincerely,

*Dick*

Richard F. Prince



May 2, 1985

To: Executive Committee  
From: Helena Sprague  
Re.: Field Representative's Report

The potential for library placement was dramatically demonstrated recently by Vin Myers, (Worcester, MA), who travelled 14,000 miles in Canada and several of our northern border states placing 458 copies of The URANTIA Book. He has some techniques he'll gladly share!

The Urantia Society of Central Connecticut has welcomed visitors and several new members from distant towns; their willingness to travel so far is a statement in itself. Hopefully a fall conference at an unusually modest cost will bring many together.

The network of readers in New England is growing slowly. Many of them need each other and enjoy these contacts. Eagerness to share the book repeatedly points to the place for some aids and "in-service" learning, some geared particularly for newcomers, about ways to introduce the book, (and ways to avoid).

While we occasionally "discover" study groups which have been meeting for some time, it appears that the number of active groups remains about the same. Study groups emerge and dissolve for numerous reasons, some unavoidable. The book offers direct, specific and practical tools for one common threat to effectiveness and durability of groups, (ours or any others): people finding it hard to get along with each other. I've heard it asked: "Isn't this what the kingdom, the teachings, Jesus' life are all about?" One of our study groups sets the tone of each meeting with a brief reading, no comment or discussion, relating to one-to-one or one-to-group behavior. Some find that the book can be used as a manual for person-to-person relationships, group dynamics, the nature of leadership and followership.