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Jan. 26, 1957

Dr. Meredith J. Sprunger
215 N. Slate St.
Culver, Indiana

Dear Dr. Sprunger:

Thank you for your letter of the 16th telling me about the sermons leading up to the Urantia Book. Harold Karrer told my class Wednesday evening something of your sermon last Sunday. I thought your text selection from the Urantia Book was very appropriate.

If you wish any books divided and rebound please direct your request to Miss Marian Rowley at this address, and she will take care of the matter. I had mine rebound in three volumes -- 1. Part I, 2. Part II and III, 3. Part IV. That makes them about equal size.

Sincerely,

William S. Sadler

WSS/ar

Feb. 23, 1957

Dr. Meredith J. Sprunger
Grace Evangelical and Reformed Church
307 N. Plymouth St.
Culver, Indiana

Dear Dr. Sprunger:

Answering your letter of February 27 let me remind you that anything you rewrite or paraphrase, of course, need not be in quotes, but everything else must be in quotes, and the page number must appear after each quotation.

Many times you will want to condense a whole paragraph or even a page into a few words of your own which will connect two quotations.

Maybe the Urantia Foundation will ask you to copyright the whole work when it is finished as they required me to do in the case of the Doctrinal Studies -- thus to afford double protection against unauthorized reproduction.

Sincerely,

William S. Sadler

WSS/ar

March 4, 1957

Dr. Meredith J. Sprunger
215 N. Slate St.
Culver, Indiana

Dear Dr. Sprunger:

Mr. Ernest Pritchard, one of the students in my class in which we compared the Urantia Book with the four Gospels of the New Testament, recently prepared the enclosed synopsis.

I thought you would be interested in having a copy, as it shows, section by section throughout all the Jesus Papers, Part IV, just where the similar matter can be found in the four Gospels, and also indicates where it does not appear in the New Testament.

With all best wishes, I am

Sincerely,

William S. Sadler

WSS/ar

March 25, 1957

Dr. Meredith J. Sprunger
307 N. Plymouth St.
Culver, Indiana

Dear Dr. Sprunger:

A number of our folks have gone over your "URANTIA PRIMER" making a few editorial suggestions and correcting one or two points out of harmony with the text.

None of us is pleased with the title "URANTIA PRIMER". This is really not a primer. We have thought of many captions, but it has been difficult to agree on one. After considering over a dozen we have more nearly come to agree on "A SUMMARY OF THE URANTIA BOOK." We have considered such terms as "Condensation," "Survey," "Syllabus," "Synopsis," "Short Version," "Introduction," and so forth, but we are more nearly in agreement on the caption "A SHORT SUMMARY OF THE URANTIA BOOK." We hope that this might meet with your approval, or maybe you can come up with a new caption that will satisfy everybody.

If we can agree on this title, at the next meeting of the Urantia Foundation I will make application for permission to use the _____ quoted from the Urantia Book.

I trust all goes well with you.

Sincerely,

William S. Sadler

WSS/ar

April 17, 1957

Dr. Meredith J. Sprunger
215 N. State St.
Culver, Indiana

Dear Dr. Sprunger:

I haven't forgotten you. The Trustees of the Foundation wouldn't act without the advice of the copyright attorney, and that's what we are waiting for now. I will drop you a line just as soon as we get this proposition straightened out.

I wonder if you are going to be up to Chicago sometime in the near future.

Sincerely,

William S. Sadler

WSS:ar

July 1, 1957

Dr. Meredith J. Sprunger
307 N. Plymouth St.
Culver, Indiana

Dear Dr. Sprunger:

Glad to get your letter of June 28. I will be home the week beginning August 19. Tuesday would be a convenient day for me to see you if that would be acceptable to you, but any time during the week except Saturday.

I was very much interested in the story you told about your minister friend and his wife. Lots of interesting things are happening. We will talk them over when we see you.

Sincerely,

William S. Sadler

WSS/ar

July 25, 1957

Dr. Meredith J. Sprunger
215 N. Slate St.
Culver, Indiana

Dear Dr. Sprunger:

Received your letter, and I hasten off this letter with the hope that we could make the date of our visit August 20th. That ~~afternoon~~ I can have all the time I want. August 19th is pretty ~~well~~ blocked out. If, for any reason, you cannot make this change, I will do the best I can to get as much time as possible with you on the 19th.

Glad to hear the good news about the Bredewegs. Interesting things are coming in to the office here all the time about the progress of the Urantia Book. I will tell you all about the ~~Index~~ when I see you.

Sincerely,

William S. Sadler

WSS/ar

Sept. 30, 1957

Dr. Meredith J. Sprunger
215 N. Slate St.
Culver, Indiana

Dear Dr. Sprunger:

I am returning your data. Several of us have looked it over and there is little we can suggest, except there are a few lines we thought it best to leave out.

I will be looking forward to seeing you in a few days.

Sincerely,

William S. Sadler

WSS/ar

Sprunger's letter + Dr.'s first answer missing.

Oct. 23, 1957

Dr. Meredith J. Sprunger
507 Plymouth St.
Culber, Indiana

Dear Dr. Sprunger:

Thank you for your letter received last week, with enclosure from your friend, the physicist, which I am returning to you as you requested.

This letter is a good indication of a mental reaction of preconception. There are so few open minds in the world today. When cement once hardens it takes an automatic drill to break it up.

I hope we can have another good talk before too long. With best wishes, I am

Sincerely,

William S. Sadler

WSS/ar

Nov. 15, 1957

Dr. Meredith J. Sprunger
307 Plymouth St.
Culver, Indiana

Dear Dr. Sprunger:

I am very pleased with your paper which came to hand yesterday. Only a few of us have read it as yet, but we are very pleased with your presentation.

Could you spare a few copies that we can have on hand to use here and there? I think it is very valuable.

Sincerely,

William S. Sadler

WSS/ar

January 27, 1958

Dr. Meredith J. Sprunger
307 Plymouth St.
Culver, Indiana

Dear Dr. Sprunger:

Thanks for remembering to send us your condensation and catechism for the youngsters. I like it very much, and so do the rest of the folks to whom I have given the extra copies. I am unable to offer any suggestions, but return a copy to you with what few little points I noticed.

We are working hard on the index, and hope to send it to press sometime early this summer.

With all best wishes, I am

Sincerely,

William S. Sadler

WSS/ar

February 5, 1958

Dr. Meredith L. Sprunger
215 N. Slate St.
Culver, Indiana

Dear Dr. Sprunger:

I thought you might be interested in seeing a copy of the TEACHINGS OF JESUS which will be the text for a course of study in the Brotherhood School for the second semester of this year.

This compilation represents that part of the Urantia Book which embraces the actual teachings - the words that Jesus contributed.

The sayings are reproduced in full. The sermons are not reproduced in this text, merely the references are given.

Sincerely,

William S. Sadler

WSS/ar

May 2, 1958

Dr. Meredith J. Sprunger
307 Plymouth Street
Culver, Indiana

Dear Dr. Sprunger:

Thank you for your letter about Dr. Hubbard. It would seem that his associates were largely British and Canadian. I hope that some of them will get interested in the Book.

Now about the "Mind at Mischief" and Appendix. At the time that book was written we had not begun to receive the Urantia Papers. Our communications were varied and of miscellaneous nature, and furthermore, we had not been put under any restrictions about discussing the case. These were the times in which we could bring in magicians, physicians, and friends to help us observe this phenomena.

Therefore, I had always made the statement that I had never met psychic or sensitive, who was willing to submit to observation, that we had not been able to understand and classify.

Now when I made that statement several times in writing "The Mind at Mischief" it immediately occurred to me that it was not strictly true because until up to that date I had not solved this particular case. Therefore, in three or four statements I put in this footnote and referred to the Appendix.

At the time I wrote this Appendix I was puzzled and bewildered. I had been unable to solve my problem but I still regarded it as some new phase of natural psychic phenomena. This manuscript was prepared either late in 1927, or early in 1928 - more than thirty years ago.

We certainly enjoyed you all during your visit, and we trust you will, before too long, repeat it. I am very much interested in your work. It seems to me that you are the leading pioneer in the study and introduction of the Urantia Book to theologians.

Sincerely,

William S. Sadler

WSS/ar

May 7, 1958

Dr. Meredith L. Sprunger
207 N. Plymouth St.
Culver, Indiana

Dear Dr. Sprunger:

I am sending you a dozen revised sheets on Psychic Phenomena, such as was distributed to the group. There was an omission of "automatic walking", or "somnambulism" which has been added to this revised sheet under Section 7.

Sincerely,

William S. Sadler

WSS/ar

May 12, 1958

Dr. Meredith J. Sprunger
507 N. Plymouth St.
Culver, Indiana

Dear Dr. Sprunger:

Glad to hear from you and learn of other interests, like Dr. Morton. I have a letter from Pastor Schlundt, over at Goshen, telling me that he wants to arrange to come up next year and attend Brotherhood School.

I am not surprised to hear that you are going to get yourself interested in clinical psychology. As far as my experience goes, clinical psychologists have been very helpful to psychiatry. I know there has been some trouble here and there - psychiatrists saying that psychologists go too far in trying to diagnose and treat serious mental disorders.

I think the clinical psychologist has been far more useful when working in institutions or with groups than when he has tried to go it alone as an individual practitioner. But the best excuse for his function is the fact that the country is short on psychiatrists; and this shortage is to some extent compensated by the clinical psychologist, the psychological social worker, as well as ministers who are more and more helping out with the minor mental disturbances.

Always glad to hear from you and get the news.

Sincerely,

William S. Sadler

WSS/ar

June 3, 1950

Dr. Meredith J. Sprunger
307 Plymouth Street
Culver, Indiana

Dear Dr. Sprunger:

I was very much interested in your letter of May 31st received being an officer of the Brotherhood, I will not hesitate to write you fully concerning my reactions.

I don't know of any one who will be better qualified to function as Field Secretary of the Urentia Brotherhood than yourself. In fact, I don't know of any one who is qualified even in a small degree approaching yourself. Only a few days ago I had expressed myself along these lines with the additional thought that if the organization of the Brotherhood Seminary were not delayed too long you would be the ideal man to function as its President.

I fear that the Brotherhood is not sufficiently developed to be able to support a field secretary at the present time, and I doubt if the field is sufficiently ripe to be responsive to such an effort. At the present time, all of the officers of the Brotherhood are "tentmakers". They are all self-supporting workers. I suppose we could regard Paul as being the first Field Secretary of the Christian movement, but even with a considerable constituency, found it necessary to "make tents".

Of course, some wealthy convert may show up who would be glad to support a field secretary. That could happen most any day. Needless to say, I am glad to learn of your feelings in such matters, and you may be assured of my understanding co-operation.

I was interested in your letter to the Indiana School Superintendents and would be pleased to know what developments might arise therefrom.

I am passing your letter along to the President of the Brotherhood and I am sure that you will sooner or later receive an official reaction to your suggestions. In the meantime I am sure you will string along with the rest of us at "tentmaking" while awaiting future developments.

With all best wishes, I remain

Sincerely yours,

WSS/ar

William S. Sadler

June 30, 1958

Dr. Meredith J. Sprunger
307 Plymott St.
Culver, Indiana

Dear Dr. Sprunger:

I have neglected your letters for I have been out in the sand dunes for 10 days.

I am very appreciative of your great interest in the Urantia movement, and of course, I feel very sure that you have been brought to the kingdom for just such a time as this. I will not write too much, for I hope to see you soon.

Let me thank you for the revised versions of the Psalms. I am very much pleased with them and hope you will go on and finish all 150. Some arrangements should be made to have them reproduced and made available to all of us.

Be good until I see you.

Sincerely,

William S. Sadler

WSS/ar

Oct. 20, 1958

Dr. Meredith J. Sprunger
215 N. Slate St.
Culver, Indiana

Dear Dr. Sprunger:

Your recent letters to me and Marian were very interesting. I think you are having real success in your efforts to interest people in the Urantia Book, and your slow but persistent efforts convince me more and more of the proper technique of spreading the message at this time.

I will be looking forward to seeing you next Sunday.

Sincerely,

William S. Sadler

WSS/ar

January 15, 1959

Dr. Meredith J. Sprunger
215 N. Slate St.
Culver, Indiana

Dear Dr. Sprunger:

Thank you for your suggestions about my Paper. I suppose if there is a request for this Paper, it will be mimeographed later on, and be available.

I think your note about the Urantia Book and the churches was very good. I would suggest that if you have a duplicate you will send us a few copies that Miss Rowley might have in her files for use now and then.

I was very happy to learn how your church election came out. You really have had better luck with the "brethren" than I ever thought you would have. I am glad things have turned out as they have.

Thanking you again for your helpful suggestions, I am

Sincerely,

William S. Sadler

WSS/ar

Feb. 12, 1960

Dr. Meredith J. Sprunger
INDIANA TECHNICAL COLLEGE
1600 E. Washington Blvd.
Fort Wayne 2, Indiana

Dear Dr. Sprunger:

Replying to your letter received this morning, I am sure that any time that you have available to make the trip west can be satisfactorily arranged with the groups in California and Oklahoma. I am sorry that you cannot take Mrs. Sprunger, nevertheless, I think you should make the trip.

I note your letter to the President of the Brotherhood, and I am sure that arrangements for your becoming a member-at-large will be adjusted.

Yes, we had a nice time with your Culver friends last Sunday, and I am glad they are going to organize a Society this summer.

Sincerely,

William S. Sadler

WSS/ar

(Copy of a letter sent to Dr. Sprunger
from a physicist, Richie D. Mikesell
Univ. of Illinois, Champaign, Ill.)

204 E. John St.
Champaign, Ill.
October 21, 1957

Dear Dr. Sprunger:

I was contacted by your brother (-in-law?) today about the book that you loaned me last year. I will give it to him tomorrow.

I'm very sorry about being so negligent. I saw very little of the book last spring because I was very much overworked, none at all this summer, and had just started to take an interest in it this fall. My roommate this semester is a Ph.D. candidate in the philosophy department, and we frequently have discussions together. In one of these discussions I brought the book out, and we've been using it ever since.

I'll be quite frank with you -- this book has more absolute nonsense in it than any other single book I've ever seen. Furthermore, as a religious liberal who finds Christian theology almost completely untenable, this book seems especially ridiculous in that it retains most of these old ideas, adds very unlikely new ones, and tries to pass itself off as a "new revelation."

My roommate has commented:

1. The parts of the book which deal with factual knowledge can be found in elementary textbooks dealing with sociology, psychology, astronomy, biology, etc. and are certainly no revelation to anyone.
2. The use of terminology seems to be designed to arouse emotional responses independent of cognitive meaning (where there is cognitive meaning). To be more specific, the terminology is a curious mixture of that of science fiction and of Mormon theology.
3. It would be interesting to know what criteria were used by you to determine the authenticity of the material in the book.

Despite this rather severe criticism of the book, I hope that you will accept my thanks for the use of a very interesting book.

Sincerely,

(Signed) Ritchie Mikesell