

Wilkins file

August 14, 1959

Mrs. Nancy Hildick  
Secretary to Dr. Stefansson  
Dartmouth College  
Hanover, New Hampshire

Dear Mrs. Hildick:

Let me thank you for your letter of August 11, and in reply, to inform you that I did not get Dr. Stefansson's answer to my letter of July 22nd.

First, let me say that I am the Dr. Sadler who, these many years ago, lectured under Mr. Alber's management, and I am therefore taking the liberty of sending a copy of this letter to Mr. Alber at the Cleveland address you suggested.

What I wish to bring to your attention is the matter of Sir Hubert's religious inclinations for the past twenty-five years, and as a background for this, I am sending you a copy of The Urantia Book, published three or four years ago.

About twenty-five years ago Sir Hubert learned about a group of us here in Chicago who were attendant upon a rather unusual psychic phenomenon, and he became a member of this group. During a period of about twenty-five years we received communications through this subject, which purported to be superhuman in origin, and these communications were subsequently published in The Urantia Book, which I am sending to you.

For the last twenty-five years this was Sir Hubert's personal religious philosophy. He came to see us every year or two, spending two or three weeks reading, studying, and making notes on these Papers up to the time of the publishing of the Book in October, 1955.

During these annual or biennial visits he spent about two hours a day studying the Urantia Papers. During these visits it was his custom to spend several evenings at my home during which we engaged in very deliberate discussions of the teachings of the Urantia Papers. Sir Hubert Wilkins was a member of this group, which we, in those days, called THE FORUM, but which now functions as THE FIRST URANTIA SOCIETY.

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In 1954 when permission was granted for the publication of the Book a letter was sent to about 250 members of this original Chicago group, asking for contributions of \$50,000.00 for the publication of 10,000 copies. Sir Hubert's response to this letter was the first money received in the office of the Urantia Foundation, and it consisted of a contribution of \$1,000.00.

I should explain that my wife, who passed away twenty years ago this month, before her demise, had personally collected \$25,000.00 which covered the cost of making the plates for the Urantia Book, and it was on the presentation of these plates that the Urantia Foundation was organized to publish and foster the Book.

I happened to personally know that Sir Hubert was profoundly interested in the text of this Book and that it represented his personal beliefs for the past twenty-five years.

Before the publication of the book no written matter was permitted to be carried away from the address which represented the custodianship of the Papers. The notes which Sir Hubert made, during his annual or biennial periods of study, were sent to him upon publication of the Book.

I do not know how much Mrs. Wilkins knew about her husband's connections with this group, but when I read Dr. Stefansson's article in THE READER'S DIGEST I thought this was a matter of too much importance to be left out of the record of Sir Hubert's life. Knowing how much he valued the Urantia Papers, I thought they ought to be a part of the archives which would commemorate the extraordinary life activities of this unique man.

Sincerely,

William S. Sadler

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