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URANTIA BROTHERHOOD

533 DIVERSEY PARKWAY CHICAGO ILLINOIS 60614

June 7, 1976

TO THE MEMBERS OF THE GENERAL COUNCIL:

The Executive Committee has sent to you the contents of the motion passed at the April 10 meeting concerning the letter dated April 3, 1976, written and circulated by Paul Snider. The motion dealt only with the manner in which the letter was sent. The matter was again discussed at the May 8 Executive Committee meeting. The content of the letter was more fully considered. Parenthetically, since there was no prior consultation with the Executive Committee or General Council before composing his letter, it should be noted that Mr. Snider was speaking only for himself.

Between the April and May meetings, URANTIA Foundation distributed copies of the guidelines referred to in Mr. Snider's letter. The Foundation has responded separately (on May 19), explaining the need for such guidelines, the confirmatory agreements, and other supervisory instructions. This communication reviews the origin and history of the two organizations and the reasons for designing each with complementary responsibilities.

For your review, here is the resolution ratified and confirmed at the Triennial Meeting of the General Council August 5, 1973:

WHEREAS, It is an important and abiding purpose of URANTIA Brotherhood wisely to disseminate the teachings of The URANTIA Book among the peoples of the world, and

WHEREAS, To that end the text of The URANTIA Book must be maintained pure and inviolate, and

WHEREAS, It is the deep desire of the members of this Fourth Triennial Delegate Assembly that the integrity of The URANTIA Book be maintained for all future generations, and

WHEREAS, The Trustees of URANTIA Foundation, the holder of the copyright in and to The URANTIA Book, are charged with the sacred duty of protecting the text inviolate,

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED That the Fourth Triennial Delegate Assembly hereby expresses its full support of the Trustees of the URANTIA Foundation in every and all of their efforts to maintain their rightful and lawful control over The URANTIA Book to insure that it will be protected from distortion, editing, and misuse.

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED That every Society and every member is hereby urged to do everything possible to maintain a united front against those who would threaten - by the violation of the copyright laws or other disloyal acts - the continued existence of The URANTIA Book, as it was given to the world, as it now is, and as it ever must be.

URANTIA Foundation has the legal and moral responsibility to safeguard the copy-right to the book, the name, and the symbol. URANTIA Brotherhood is happy to share in this moral responsibility and substantially support the Foundation. We understand that legally there can be no "special friends" - individuals or groups - who are exempt from copyright law. For this reason the Brotherhood and societies as well as individual members must get written permission (or a license) from the Foundation before using quotations from the book, or the name URANTIA, or the concentric circles symbol, in works to be published, distributed, or displayed.

This legal requirement should cause no major problems. Routine procedures will soon be in the hands of societies and conference planners which will guide them in copyright, trademark, and service mark protection. These laws, in our judgment, do not jeopardize the spiritual freedom or autonomy of the Brotherhood or societies. Individual or institutional autonomy does not imply freedom to disobey the laws of the country in which the individual or institution resides. It is our conviction that the Brotherhood and the Foundation can work together harmoniously to preserve the copyright and registered marks and at the same time stimulate spiritual freedom.

We have complete confidence in the ability of the Brotherhood and the Foundation to work together co-operatively in the great responsibility and opportunity of preserving and disseminating the text and teachings of the fifth epochal revelation. We therefore re-affirm the pledge of full support of URANTIA Foundation as expressed in the resolution of August 5, 1973.

The Executive Committee