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4109 Plaza Drive
Fort Wayne, Indiana
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Mr. Warren H. Kulieke
Miss Marian Rowley
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Dear Friends:

The foremost question occupying my thoughts for the past five years has been, "What is the most effective way (wisest procedure) to introduce the message and philosophy of the Urantia Book into the religious thinking and life of America and the world?"

After considering many approaches, one plan appears to be superior to all others: establishing an interdenominational School of Religion (Seminary) in fraternal connection with some established college or university. There is a growing demand for the ecumenical training of ministers.

The technique of organizing and controlling such a School of Religion would follow a predetermined pattern. Assuming the Board of such a school would be composed of twelve members - boards are self-perpetuating - seven of these members would always be Urantians. The remaining members could be made up of representatives from the fraternally related college and influential but progressive members of major religious bodies (denominations). In this way Urantians could always determine the policies of the school.

The faculty would have several Urantians - who have proper seminary and academic background - in key positions. The balance of the faculty would be progressive, properly trained persons from various denominations. As the institution became established and more Urantians with theological training became available, such individuals would be added to the faculty.

The curriculum would follow traditional but improved lines which would emphasize the Urantia point of view - without actually mentioning it. At first the Urantia Book could be referred to by Urantian instructors and curious students would discover the book on their own initiative. Later, at the proper evolutionary time, the course on the Life of Jesus would introduce the Urantia Book as one of the "Lives" used in the course. Still later - at the request of students - electives on other sections of the Urantia Book could be added.

A special attraction of this school would be the policy of placing this graduate training on the same basis as graduate training in other fields. This would give the student an opportunity to earn a doctorate (Th. D.) during the three years of seminary training. In addition to regular course work this degree would include passing preliminary exams, taking courses in research techniques or pass language requirements, writing an acceptable thesis, and passing final exams.

For those students who do not wish to fulfill these traditional doctoral requirements or who fail to pass any of them, the traditional B. D. degree would be given upon the successful completion of the three years of study. Ministers who have degrees from recognized seminaries could - after passing preliminary exams, taking special research courses or passing language exams,

taking some minimum number of additional courses, writing an acceptable thesis and passing final examinations - receive an earned doctorate (Th. D.).

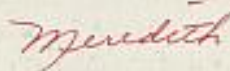
The only thing needed to start such a program is the will to begin and a limited amount of capital to carry it out. It might be possible to use the facilities of the related college for class rooms. I believe a number of people of means could be found to donate funds to start such an international, interdenominational School of Religion.

Such a project may not be one which the Urantia Brotherhood should encourage, plan, or promote but after five years of thinking, it appears to me to be the best evolutionary plan of constructive action open to us.

I am writing you not so much to receive an answer - although any comment will be appreciated - but that you might think about this or some alternate plan of positive evolutionary action in which the best minds of the Brotherhood could engage in cooperative effort.

The next time we come to Chicago I would like to talk with some of you about the possibility of such long range plans.

Cordially yours,



Meredith J. Sprunger