
ANNUAL MEETING OF THE
GENERAL COUNCIL OF URANTIA BROTHERHOOD

August 1, 1981

The annual meeting of the General Council of URANTIA Brotherhood was held at 10:00 A.M., August 1, 1981, at 533 Diversey Parkway, Chicago, Illinois.

The following members were present, constituting a quorum:

Charles Burton, Helen C. Carlson, E. L. Christensen, Lewis A. Clark, Edith E. Cook, Stephen Dreier, David N. Elders, Berkeley Elliott, Duane L. Faw, Julia K. Fenderson, Scott Forsythe, David R. Gray, John W. Hales, Mary Lou Hales, William M. Hales, Gloriann Harris, Katharine J. Harries, James P. Jarnagin, Gene Joyce, Carolyn Kendall, Thomas Kendall, Barbara N. Kulieke, Lynne B. Kulieke, Harry McMullan, III, James C. Mills, Martin W. Myers, Robert W. Myers, Anna Rawson, Harry E. Rowley, Marian T. Rowley, K. David Schlundt, Frank Sgaraglino, Paul Snider, Helena Sprague, Meredith J. Sprunger.

Arthur C. Born was absent.

The meeting was called to order by the President, John W. Hales, with Katharine Harries acting as Secretary.

The minutes of the last General Council meeting, held August 9, 1980, were read and approved.

The Secretary read the census reports for the thirteen societies as of December 31, 1980:

First URANTIA Society 105
First URANTIA Society of Los Angeles 120
URANTIA Society of Glenview 22
First URANTIA Society of Oklahoma 124
Orvonton URANTIA Society of Chicago 35
Fort Wayne URANTIA Society 25
First URANTIA Society of Wenatchee 15
First URANTIA Society of Houston 36
First URANTIA Society of Western Springs 10
San Francisco Bay Area URANTIA Society 37

URANTIA Society of Central Connecticut 30
URANTIA Society of Dallas 29 Rocky Mountain
URANTIA Society of Denver 31

Total Society Members 619
Members-at-Large 181
Total Brotherhood Members 800

A motion was made, seconded, and carried to recess for informal discussion.

The President gave his report and then asked for comments on the reports of the officers, departmental chairmen, and field representatives which had been sent out previously.

There was a general discussion on the Treasurer's Report with suggestions for various ways to further break it down or add more information. It was decided that the purpose of the report would be lost if it were totally broken down and therefore, if it were to be done it should be a separate report. The Finance Chairman will take the suggestions into account when preparing next year's report.

A discussion of the Charter Committee report brought out the point that it is felt that one should have read The URANTIA Book in order to become a member of a society. The Committee is in the process of formulating new guide lines for prospective societies and would like to have opinions expressed so that they might be considered. Councilors were asked to send their opinions to Dave Elders, Charter Committee, Chairman, for consideration.

Methods of distributing books to libraries were discussed in conjunction with the Domestic Extension Committee report. Funds have just become available for accelerating this project.

Martin W. Myers added to his International Fellowship Committee report that recent information indicates there are about six study groups in Jabalpur, India; also, Lynne Kulieke told of her recent visit with a group of readers in Sevilla, Spain.

Thomas Kendall expressed thanks to the Brotherhood from the Trustees for the assistance given on the 7th Printing Fund Drive.

The meeting was recessed at 12:20 for lunch and reconvened at 1:30. Thanks were expressed to the anonymous donor for the luncheon and to the Special Projects Committee for their work in putting it on.

The Chairman reported that the Ad Hoc Committee on Field Representatives had presented its final report which had been accepted and would be considered whenever future Field Representatives were proposed.

The current status of the Houston situation was reported on and discussed briefly. The Brotherhood

decision as to the "true society" in Houston was determined after a hearing held in Houston, Texas, by the Judicial Committee, December, 1980, and approved by the Executive Committee. The report is on file. The law suit brought by URANTIA Foundation against "First URANTIA Society of Houston, Inc." for mark violation is still pending.

Four proposed resolutions which had been given to the Chairman to be placed on the agenda were distributed. For ease of discussion they were numbered one through four. Resolution I concerned marketing The URANTIA Book. After the resolution was read the discussion included appropriate items to include in the report, ways to make the book available, and who might conduct the investigation.

A consensus was reached that rather than pass the proposed resolution, the topic should be given to the Executive Committee for study and then a report made to the General Council.

Resolution II concerned translations of The URANTIA Book. It was brought out that although those from other countries appreciate the many gestures we are making in their behalf, it is far more important to them to have the translation in their own tongue as rapidly as possible. To date translation efforts have been started where there is a group with a strong desire to share the teachings in their native tongue. When encouraging these efforts, we must realize that we are talking about activities that involve international copyright law and we must be careful not to impart erroneous advice.

A consensus was reached to have a motion to adopt the second resolution with a minor word change. Formal action was deferred.

Resolution III concerned the organization of URANTIA Brotherhood with revision of the Constitution. After discussion of this resolution a recess was taken at 3:45. When the meeting reconvened at 4:00, a straw vote was taken in favor of tabling the resolution.

Resolution IV concerned the issue of "fair use" of material from The URANTIA Book. It was suggested that attorneys for the Foundation and the Brotherhood give opinions. This possibility was discussed, but it was noted that this could lead to an adversary situation. It was felt that unless we had the same attorneys for both sides we might not get one single answer.

A consensus was reached that rather than pass the proposed resolution the subject of "fair use" be referred to the Executive Committee asking that they report back to the General Council next year.

Two further issues for discussion were then brought up. It was recommended that some orientation program be developed for the Delegates who will be attending the next meeting of the Triennial Delegate Assembly (TDA). The process could be started in the societies and continued in an orientation meeting the day before the TDA. The task of implementing this program was given to the Executive Committee.

The second issue was a request to evaluate ways in which the General Council and the Executive

Committee can work together most effectively. The Chairman was asked to appoint an Ad Hoc Committee to look into this subject. He asked for volunteers who would be willing to serve on a committee. Steve Dreier, Helena Sprague, and Scott Forsythe volunteered. Formal action was deferred.

The meeting was reconvened in formal session at 5:18 P.M.

A motion was made, seconded, and carried to adopt the following resolution:

Whereas a function of URANTIA Brotherhood is to promote the dissemination of the teachings of The URANTIA Book in foreign lands and among non-English speaking peoples everywhere; and

Whereas the unavailability of any foreign language translation, and particularly the unavailability of translations in French and Spanish, limits the Brotherhood in fulfilling its mission,

Therefore be it resolved that the Executive Committee exert every reasonable effort to assist URANTIA Foundation in the preparation and/or publication of suitable translations in French and Spanish to facilitate the work of URANTIA Brotherhood, and that the Executive Committee report to the next General Council the status of the progress in obtaining suitable translations of The URANTIA Book in French and Spanish, together with any assistance offered or given by URANTIA Foundation in preparing such translations.

A motion was made, seconded, and carried to ask the President of the Brotherhood to appoint an ad hoc committee whose objective shall be to explore ways in which the General Council and the Executive Committee can operate with greatest effectiveness within the present parameters of the constitution.

The Chairman appointed Gloriann Harris and James Jarnagin as tellers and the ballots were passed out. Marian Rowley read the nominations of the Executive Committee for vacancies on the departmental committees. The Chairman asked for nominations from the floor. Lucile Faw was nominated for the Charter Committee for a term of six years, Richard F. Prince, International Fellowship Committee, six years, Peter Laurence, Publications Committee, six years, John Hay, Special Projects Committee, 3 years. Nominations were closed and speeches made for the various candidates. The vote was taken and the tellers retired to make the count. A recess was s called.

The Chairman called the meeting to order and the tellers reported the vote as follows:

Judicial Committee 6 yrs. Larry Posner 33 for 2 abstentions Charter Committee 6 yrs. Peter Laurence 16 for Lucile Faw 19 for Fraternal Relations Committee 6 yrs. Jim McNelly 35 for none against Domestic Extension Committee 6 yrs. Tom Allen 35 for none against International Fellowship Committee 6 yrs. Harold Schomas 13 for Richard Prince 22 for Education Committee 6 yrs. Marjorie Reed 34 for 1 abstention Publications Committee 6 yrs. Laura Hauck 16 for Peter Laurence 17 for 2 abstentions Finance Committee 6 yrs. Frank Sgaraglino, 34 for 1 abstention Chairman Special Projects Committee 6 yrs. Carol Forsythe 34 for 1 abstention 3 yrs. Bill Hazen 21 for John Hay 14 for

The Chairman declared the candidates with majority votes elected for the posts named.

The Chairman said the Triennial Delegate Assembly and General Council would probably be held next year in late July or early August with a 4 or 5 day workshop following.

There being no further business, he then adjourned the meeting at 6:35 PM sine die.

(Signed) Katharine J. Harries, Secretary

APPROVED: (Signed) John W. Hales. Chairman