



URANTIA BROTHERHOOD  
533 DIVERSEY PARKWAY CHICAGO ILLINOIS 60614

## URANTIA BROTHERHOOD BULLETIN

Vol. 2, No. 2

November 10, 1976

### Response to Bulletin Favorable

On August 10, 1976, URANTIA Brotherhood resumed publication of the Bulletin with its first issue since August, 1973. Response has been favorable, so we plan to continue. In fact, we are encouraged by the many positive comments. Many who received it before said they missed the Bulletin, and are glad to have it back; several who received it for the first time said they appreciated the information and enjoyed the articles. Several offered to help. In one area, a long-time URANTIA Book reader re-established contact with the organized groups in the area as a result of the Bulletin. We hope the positive results continue! Thank you for letting us know what you think--and please continue.

### Headquarters Uses Bulk Mailing

A change for us this year has been the use of the special bulk mailing rates and procedures offered by the post office to those who wish to save on postage by doing more of the work themselves. We sort, package, and label pieces according to zip code and routing. The post office then mails our already prepared mail bags at their convenience--within 10 days to two weeks of receiving them. The rate per piece is 2¢--quite a savings from the regular 13¢ rate! Now that our mailing list is at 1450 (and climbing), bulk mailing is especially economical. It is used for the Bulletin and other items which go to the entire mailing list. The date on items is the date we take the mail to the post office--your receipt may be late due to the 10-day to two-week option, although much of a mailing is sent within a few days. Bulk mail is not forwarded, so it is especially important for you to send us your changes of address. This system is working well for us. Please keep us up-to-date and correct on addresses.

### URANTIA Movement Publications Expand

In the past few years, great strides have been made in written communications within the URANTIA movement. We thought you might like to have a list of newsletters and magazines which have developed, with information about them and how to obtain them, so we prepared an enclosure to go with this issue of the Bulletin. Special best wishes and thanks are due the Agondonter and the Finaliter, two fine local newsletters enjoyed by those in their respective areas--the West coast and the East coast--and by those who wish to keep up with activities in those areas. What a great service these newsletters are and have been!

### New Philosophy and Goals Guide Education Committee

For the past five years, the URANTIA Brotherhood Committee on Education has been engaged in active and in-depth survey of the URANTIA movement. The reason for this increased communication activity has been the rethinking of the purpose and function of URANTIA Brotherhood School. For 15 years, the School operated in Chicago along the lines of a traditional academic institution, but with the growth of the movement in the field--increasing numbers of individual readers, and especially the development of study groups and societies--it became evident that adjustment to these changes needed to be made.



In 1971, a questionnaire was sent to societies and study groups to obtain reactions to initial proposals for change. From then on, there has been an on-going series of written communications and face-to-face meetings, including additional questionnaires, letters, and discussion, a three-day workshop attended by 50 leaders and teachers at Kendall College in 1975, and presentations at the workshops in Oklahoma following the 1976 URANTIA International Forum. Results of these activities were assembled and absorbed at each step along the way, and in this way, the Committee on Education arrived at its current philosophy and activities.

The Education Committee is dedicated, says Lynne Kulieke, Lake Forest, Ill., Chairman, to the purposes in the Constitution of URANTIA Brotherhood--the study and dissemination of the teachings of The URANTIA Book among the peoples of the world. This dedication is demonstrated in their "Philosophy and Purpose of Educational Activities," a two-page statement shared this summer at the Triennial Delegate Assembly, the General Council meeting, and the Oklahoma workshop:

"The philosophy directing the activities of the Committee on Education is determined by the purpose and goals of URANTIA Brotherhood.... URANTIA Brotherhood during the first 20 years of its existence has dedicated itself to a leavening, spiritual ministry.... Translating these teachings into specific social-institutional responsibilities will be the task of various individuals and institutions of our society.... In the light of this picture of URANTIA Brotherhood, the Committee on Education does not plan at this time to establish a formal educational institution. When we use the word "school" it is in a generic sense designating educational activities anywhere in URANTIA Brotherhood." (pg. 1)

Working with this newly formulated view of URANTIA Brotherhood School, the Education Committee desires to serve the basic channels of educational activity which have evolved in the URANTIA movement: individuals, study groups, and societies. The purpose of educational activities, as viewed by the Committee, is:

"to promote conditions which will facilitate the actualization of the Universal Father's will on two basic levels: A. Individual-personal. Educational activities should strive to stimulate spiritual growth and personality development in individuals. B. Social-institutional. Educational activities should be structured to lead and challenge the institutions of our society to fashion their goals of service and methodology of operation to be reflective of the highest insights of human wisdom as it is guided by divine revelation." (pg. 1)

The Committee has set goals to actualize these purposes. Study groups and societies are encouraged to organize classes, workshops, and educational experiences according to their own best wisdom; the Education Committee is to serve study groups and societies by making resources and resource leaders available, and, in appropriate situations, to encourage educational activities, generally serving as a stimulator, facilitator, coordinator, and advisor. Work on one goal has resulted in a nine-page paper titled "Ideals and Characteristics of Excellence in Education," a compilation of the suggestions of approximately forty people in URANTIA Brotherhood, most of whom have professional backgrounds in education. Other activities are in progress.

The Committee will continue their program of interaction with URANTIA Book readers by means of letters and questionnaires, and committee members have plans to attend local and regional conferences. Lynne emphasizes that the committee wants to keep communication channels open and to receive helpful ideas from all interested persons.



Fraternal Relations Committee Seeks Aid for "Alexandria Library"

In a letter of September 22, 1975, Carolyn Kendall, Wheeling, Ill., Chairman, URANTIA Brotherhood Fraternal Relations Committee, asked for help in beginning a "file collection composed of titles of published works describing religions of the world." Carolyn has asked that we issue this request for help to a wider audience via the Bulletin. This is an on-going project of the Fraternal Relations Committee and all Urantians are invited to help. Carolyn further describes the project in her 1975 letter:

"By religion, we mean any organized religion, including any system of belief which appears to emphasize ritual, symbolism, or creedal control, and considers itself a religion. Our intention will be to offer lists of books and articles on all religious groups.... Our function would be that of co-ordinating information--rather than of offering judgmental commentary. Long range plans for our 'Alexandria Library' will include the accumulation of your own research papers or abstracts on the various religions...."

Enclosed for your convenience is a copy of the forms the Fraternal Relations Committee is using. The Committee says you may make as many copies of the forms as you need, and asks that if you are recommending a book which covers several religions, you make out a separate form for each religion.

Executive Committee Letter Inaugurated

On July 10, 1976, the Executive Committee of URANTIA Brotherhood voted to inaugurate an "Executive Committee Letter." Written monthly by the president, Meredith J. Sprunger, Fort Wayne, Ind., the letter reports Executive Committee business to General Councilors, society presidents, and Field Representatives, who are encouraged to share the news in this letter with others according to their own best wisdom.

The Executive Committee of URANTIA Brotherhood, composed of the five officers of URANTIA Brotherhood and the chairmen of the nine departmental committees, meets at the first of every month and is charged with the responsibility of actively managing all affairs of URANTIA Brotherhood, having the power to veto or modify any act of any officer or departmental committee chairman, exercising powers conferred upon it by the Constitution, and powers and functions delegated to it by the General Council. Here are some highlights of Executive Committee Letters from July through October:

- The five officers of URANTIA Brotherhood, known as "The Administrative Committee," are meeting frequently as a working and planning committee of the Executive Committee. This is proving to be a great help to the Executive Committee; it gives the view of more than one person on the issues to come before them, and it provides a means of preparing everyone before each monthly meeting; all of this makes for better deliberative sessions when the Executive Committee meets.
- Resolutions passed by the Triennial Delegate Assembly were acted upon:
  - (1) the resolution to consider representation for members-at-large was referred to the Judicial Committee for study and recommendations;
  - (2) John Hales, Resident Director, URANTIA Brotherhood, is preparing a summary of the Triennial Delegate Assembly to expedite the resolution asking that Assembly activities be communicated to Brotherhood members.
- The Executive Committee expressed hearty approval of the 1976 Triennial Delegate-Assembly's reaffirmation of the 1973 Assembly's support of the legal mandate of URANTIA Foundation in protection of copyright and registered trademarks.



- The next General Conference of URANTIA Brotherhood will be in late July, 1978. A Planning Committee and an Expediting Committee have been selected. Both committees are serving under the chairmanship of Carolyn Kendall, Wheeling, Ill. Members of the Planning Committee are: Lewis Clark, Wenatchee, Wash.; Berkeley Elliott, Oklahoma City; Scott Forsythe, Los Angeles; David Schlundt, Fort Wayne, Ind.; and Helena Sprague, Farmington, Conn. Members of the Expediting Committee are: Charles Burton, Waukegan, Ill.; John Hales, Kenilworth, Ill.; Lynne Kulieke, Lake Forest, Ill.; and Marian Rowley, Chicago.
- The letter frequently asks for input on issues. Some of the current topics are: rethinking standards for members-at-large; modifying procedures for chartering societies; a better approach to fund-raising; long-range goals of the Brotherhood (ideas needed by the first of January, 1977).
- The Administrative Committee (the five officers of URANTIA Brotherhood) was appointed as a research and review committee to achieve better processing of membership-at-large applications.
- Nine members-at-large were accepted: two in Canada, one in Minnesota, two in Oregon, one in Ohio, two in Finland, and one in Missouri.
- In a survey conducted by Helena Sprague, URANTIA Brotherhood Field Representatives showed a consensus for holding two-day annual meetings in Chicago. Their first meeting will be in March of 1977. The topics will be "The Role of the Field Representative" and "In-service Training."

Anyone desiring more detailed information or discussion of Executive Committee news is encouraged to see their local representatives--society presidents, Field Representatives, and General Councilors. Of course, the Executive Committee is happy to hear from anyone who wishes to communicate with them.

#### Letters Received at Headquarters

One of the joys of working at headquarters is being able to read the many letters which come in from all over the world. An estimated \_\_\_\_\_ letters are answered at headquarters every year. Every day there are letters expressing what The URANTIA Book means to those who have found it, and joy and gratitude for the work which makes the dissemination of the teachings possible. Letters range from simple requests, including notes received with orders from bookstores, to complicated questions about the teachings and many beautifully articulated thoughts which letter-writers themselves share with us. Some letters, too, are fun and humorous. We want to share some of them with you. If there is ever any doubt that The URANTIA Book is reaching people in the world, these letters provide great assurance. Here are some excerpts from letters received since August:

"Would you please send me The URANTIA Book.... We feel that we have found a firm foundation on which to build our lives. I have found answers to questions that I have had since childhood."

"About two months ago I purchased The URANTIA Book and I have been reading it ever since. I'm honestly at a loss of words to actually express to you the feelings that I have experienced since obtaining this book. The URANTIA Book has been a beautiful revelation in my life, as I am sure others have found."



"I am in the process of reading and attempting to comprehend The URANTIA Book, and I must remark that it is the most complex, fascinating, and beautiful book that I have ever read.... We are extremely excited by the URANTIA Book. Having stayed away from religion because of its dogmatic irrationalities for both of our adult lives, my wife and I are finding that Urantia offers a much more enlightened explanation of our world than any philosophy or religion we have ever encountered...."

"I received a URANTIA Book as a gift. It was and is still the nicest gift as it yet is providing much inspiration and information to the whole family. Thank you for this blessing."

"Dear brothers and sisters of URANTIA Foundation: Looking over The URANTIA Book..., I see that it corrects many of the human mistakes put into the Bible and fills in many missing gaps. But most of all it reveals more DEEPLY the ESSENCE of the countless beautiful and true things that ARE in the scriptures. And thus overall ENHANCES the appreciation and right use of the Father's ageless and continuing revelations to man.... I appreciate and desire The URANTIA Book to use, to treasure and to live.... (signed) Your brother in Christ."

"Having acquired The URANTIA Book I feel that study materials would be helpful to my understanding and grasp of the concepts presented. I have read through the introduction and into section 1. I am hungry for more knowledge but seem to find that I read the words and cannot plumb the depth that I know is there. Perhaps there is someone in my area with whom I can consult?"

"It has been almost one year since I first came into contact with The URANTIA Book in an obscure book store.... I have almost worn out my original copy. In fact, the hard cover has separated from the binding and the gold lettering has been rubbed off.... I have learned much in my efforts to share the book's contents with my friends and fellows.... In fact, I have yet to find another local individual who will endorse the book.... It is gratifying to know that The URANTIA Book is not essential for anyone's salvation...."

From a bookdealer: "Last year on a sightseeing bus in Chicago we passed your place and you live in a handsome house."

With a bookstore's order: "Ship as soon as possible. These books are for your students."

Thanks to the headquarters staff for collecting these excerpts for us, and thanks to all who write these beautiful letters.

#### Notes from Headquarters

The headquarters staff has asked us to make two announcements. One of is from Marian Rowley, Secretary of URANTIA Brotherhood, who says: "We appreciate getting the many checks we receive, but sometimes we have trouble identifying what they are for. We receive checks for URANTIA Books, Study Aids, Concordexes, textbooks, contributions, postage, journal subscriptions, and so on. If you would write on the check what the check is for, we would really appreciate it." John Hales, Resident Director and Secretary-General of URANTIA Brotherhood, asks those who wish to give URANTIA Books as Christmas gifts to please send their orders in early.



Jubilees of a Lifetime

Vern Grimsley, Berkeley, Calif., in an open letter to the Executive Committee of URANTIA Brotherhood, proposed that URANTIA Brotherhood plan special days of worship, celebration, and thanksgiving in honor of two historic anniversaries. Vern writes:

"Since Jesus was born on August 21, 7 B.C., the 1000th anniversary of his birth would have been 993 A.D., and the 2000th anniversary of his birth will be on August 21, 1993.

"Since Melchizedek arrived 1973 years before the actual birth of Christ (7 B.C.), corrected to our present calendar the incarnation of Melchizedek took place in 1980 B.C. His 1000th anniversary would have been in 980 B.C., his 2000th anniversary in 20 A.D., his 3000th in 1020 A.D., and the 4000th anniversary of Melchizedek's arrival on Urantia will be in 2020 A.D."

These anniversaries lie within the lifetimes of many us. What a thrill these celebrations could be! Vern closes his letter by saying: "...may these two historic anniversaries...symbolize the first dawns of a global spiritual renaissance--a new age of the brotherhood of man beneath the Fatherhood of God on Urantia."

Twenty Years Ago

The URANTIA Brotherhood newsletter of October 10, 1956, begins: "Charter No. 2 has been granted to the group in California....This new group will be known as the West Coast URANTIA Society of Los Angeles." This society, chartered twenty years ago, is none other than our own First URANTIA Society of Los Angeles. Happy birthday, FUSLA.

Other items in news twenty years ago: On October 1, 1956, the Executive Committee completed the organization of the URANTIA Brotherhood Corporation, a not-for-profit corporation under the laws of Illinois. On September 19, 1956, URANTIA Brotherhood School opened when 71 persons enrolled in two courses as students and auditors. First URANTIA Society, organized in June, 1956, held its first meeting September 30.

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"Your planet is a member of an enormous cosmos; you belong to a well-nigh infinite family of worlds, but your sphere is just as precisely administered and just as lovingly fostered as if it were the only inhabited world in all existence." (p. 183)\*

\*Quotation from The URANTIA Book, Copyright © 1955 URANTIA Foundation, used by Permission.

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URANTIA Movement Publications: Newsletters and Magazines

URANTIA Brotherhood Bulletin

533 Diversey Parkway  
Chicago, Ill. 60614

Quarterly; free of charge; sent to the general mailing list of URANTIA Brotherhood and URANTIA Foundation. Newsletter of URANTIA Brotherhood. Published by URANTIA Brotherhood, produced by the Publications Committee. Started July 5, 1956. May be obtained by making a request to headquarters to be placed on the general mailing list.

URANTIAN News

533 Diversey Parkway  
Chicago, Ill. 60614

Semi-annual; free of charge; sent to the general mailing list of URANTIA Brotherhood and URANTIA Foundation. Newsletter of URANTIA Foundation. Published and produced by URANTIA Foundation. Started in 1973. May be obtained by making a request to headquarters to be placed on the general mailing list.

Agondonter

P.O. Box 563

Los Angeles, CA 90053

Quarterly; free of charge; donations appreciated. Newsletter of the First URANTIA Society of Los Angeles (FUSLA). Published by FUSLA; produced by FUSLA editor, production manager, and editorial board. May be obtained by writing to the Agondonter. Started September, 1964.

Finaliter

c/o Nicholas W. Scalzo

51 Ironworks Road

Clinton, Connecticut 06413

Quarterly; by subscription, \$3.00 per year. Newsletter reporting activities of URANTIA Book study groups in the East. Published and produced by volunteers from URANTIA Book study groups in the East. May be obtained by writing to the Finaliter. Started \_\_\_\_\_.

The URANTIAN Journal

533 Diversey Parkway  
Chicago, Ill. 60614

Quarterly; by subscription only, \$3.00 per year. Magazine of URANTIA Brotherhood. Published by URANTIA Brotherhood, produced by a staff of four editors, under the auspices of the Executive Committee. May be obtained by sending a subscription to headquarters. Started March, 1976.

Name of religious organization \_\_\_\_\_

Title of book \_\_\_\_\_

Author \_\_\_\_\_

Year published \_\_\_\_\_ No. of pages devoted to subject \_\_\_\_\_

Describe material briefly \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ (Use other side.)

Send to: Fraternal Relations Committee  
URANTIA Brotherhood  
533 Diversey Parkway  
Chicago, IL 60614

\_\_\_\_\_  
Your name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Address

(Make separate copy of form for each book and for each religious organization.)

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Name of religious organization \_\_\_\_\_

Name of newspaper/magazine \_\_\_\_\_

Title of article \_\_\_\_\_

Date of publication \_\_\_\_\_ Length of article \_\_\_\_\_

Describe material briefly \_\_\_\_\_

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Send to: Fraternal Relations Committee  
URANTIA Brotherhood  
533 Diversey Parkway  
Chicago, IL 60614

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Your name

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Address

(Make separate copy of form for each article and for each religious organization.)

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