



# URANTIA® Brotherhood BULLETIN

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## COLOMBIAN REPRESENTATIVE VISITS CHICAGO

Carlos Zapata of Colombia, South America visited Chicago in mid-October on behalf of his *URANTIA Book* study group in Bogota. One of his main purposes in visiting was to meet with the Trustees of URANTIA Foundation as well as representatives of URANTIA Brotherhood. Douglas Fraser, initiator of the group in Bogota, now residing in Houston, and Richard Prince, a Field Representative located in San Diego, each made a weekend visit to confer with the Foundation Trustees along with Carlos. Since Carlos speaks very little English himself, Lynne Kuleike acted on his behalf as his personal translator during all meetings and for social occasions. Both Dick and Lynne have previously visited Carlos and the study group in Bogota.

The center of Carlos' interest is to obtain a Spanish translation of *The URANTIA Book*. The meeting made it evident that all parties appreciate the need for translations. The discussions helped to identify and define ways in which those in Bogota could work effectively for the long range best interests of the teachings of *The URANTIA Book*.

After a lengthy meeting with the Foundation, a party was held at the home of Tom and Carolyn Kendall to honor the out-of-town visitors.

The following weekend, Carlos attended a meeting of the International Fellowship Committee where he met several French Canadian visitors as well as members and visitors from California. Martin Myers, Chairman of the Committee, has expressed the Committee's program as follows:

"The International Fellowship Committee will encourage:

- a. The development of long term friendships with peoples of other cultures.
- b. The placement of *The URANTIA Book* in bilingual libraries where it will have a high probability of being found by bilingual truth seekers who can be effective links to their respective cultures.
- c. The preparation of explanatory materials about *The URANTIA Book*, URANTIA Brotherhood, and URANTIA Foundation in other languages.
- d. The development of a network of bilingual readers throughout the world.



*Carlos Zapata, Lynne Kuleike, Douglas Fraser, Thomas Kendall and Richard Prince gathered for a weekend visit in Chicago in October.*

- e. Raising the level of appreciation for the need for funds for the realization of translations."

In addition to emphasizing the need for a Spanish translation, Carlos was pleased to become acquainted with a considerable number of Chicago area *URANTIA Book* readers, to see 533 and be entertained in Christy's home, and attend various study groups. We hope this is but one of many visits by Carlos. URANTIA Brotherhood has the grand and exhilarating opportunity of linking up with sincere truth seekers the world over.

## DOMESTIC EXTENSION QUESTIONNAIRE YIELDS BIG RESPONSE

On July 28, 1980, the Domestic Extension Committee mailed out a questionnaire to the entire domestic Brotherhood mailing list of approximately 2500 names in an effort to compile more complete information on the number, size, and nature of *URANTIA Book* study groups throughout the country. A follow-up letter was sent out on October 27, 1980. To date, over 1300 responses have been received, which is regarded as a very high yield. The Domestic Extension Committee has begun collating and recording the data contained in these responses. We hope to report on the Committee's results in future issues.



## PLACING URANTIA BOOKS IN LIBRARIES IN OTHER COUNTRIES

by Julia Fenderson

"Go then, into all the world telling this good news to all creatures of every race, tribe and nation. My spirit shall go before you, and I will be with you always."\* said Jesus. We are admonished many times to proclaim the "good news": the Fatherhood of God and the brotherhood of man, salvation through faith, and that each of us is loved personally by our heavenly Father.

We can do this where we are and as we are. The most direct method is through personal ministry with or without the book. For those of us who also seek other means, *The URANTIA Book* is an eloquent spokesman of the "good news." We all have opportunities to assist in placing *The URANTIA Book* in libraries all over the world, either by going personally and placing them or by supporting those who may have the opportunity to go for us. My own experiences indicate that libraries will not refuse *The URANTIA Book* when it is offered tactfully and as a gift.

The following method has brought positive results every time, for me. First, I asked John W. Hales, President of URANTIA Brotherhood, and Martin W. Myers, Chairman of International Fellowship, for the names of URANTIA Book readers in the area I planned to visit. Next, I wrote these contacts asking to meet my fellow URANTIA Book readers and enclosing my itinerary. They have responded eagerly in the effort to find the best libraries, where I then made appointments with the librarian. I took copies of Dr. Meredith Sprunger's brochure, "Leavening Our Religious Heritage," for the librarian to keep. In describing *The URANTIA Book* (over 2,000 pages of excellent print, on fine paper, containing a world-wide non-denominational religious philosophy), I explained that the book was a gift. The opportunity to place books in several libraries in Greece was made possible by this process. A young man teaching at an English language school near Athens located bilingual libraries for me to visit. Through this personal contact, the books were placed and are available to interested readers.

For those following this or any other method, care must be taken to ascertain:

1. the name and address of the library
2. the name of acquisitions librarian or librarian for books in English
3. the willingness of the library to accept *The URANTIA Book* and place it on the shelves.

When visiting a country I try to take pictures to mail with my report to Chicago requesting a free copy of *The URANTIA Book* for placement. Sometimes I present the book personally or the Chicago office can send the book, at no charge, directly to the library.

It is, of course, essential to place these books in libraries where true searchers can find them. Over the past few years increasing numbers are finding books in these libraries.

Usually, they first examine it at some friend's urging; but many others simply discover it while browsing during their search for truth. If we furnish the book, thereby planting the seed, it will sprout and grow where a modern Rodan will find it and spread the teachings within his own country and culture without extraneous pressure. As the teachings spread to and within many countries, other bilingual scholars will find them; these groups will be fired from within to want URANTIA Foundation to provide translations.

There are other ways that books can be placed in libraries around the world. People from other countries visit our conferences and study groups. We can, and do, inspire them to place books in their home town libraries by demonstrating the ease with which it can be done. We can assist, as individuals, by providing the funds for books, or by making contacts for others to follow up. Currently there are many U.S. multi-national companies. These corporations have a vast network of branch offices and communities around the world. Some URANTIA Book readers work for these companies and have opportunities to place the book in the company library in their community. One such couple and their two children lived among more than 1,000 English-speaking employees in the Mideast. Their Friday evening family study group grew to embrace many others and *The URANTIA Book* is now in the company library.

Another booming and blooming study group meets in Bogota, Colombia, South America. The URANTIA Book study group organized there by Douglas Fraser, includes up to 25-30 people. Douglas found the book in a library.

There are study groups and URANTIA Book readers in Australia (both in Eastern Australia at Sydney and Melbourne, and Western Australia at Balingup, 3,000 miles across the country), London, England, and many in Canada. There are readers in Sweden, Finland, France, India, Italy, Belgium, Spain and other countries. Many of these people speak English as a second language. They can put books in their libraries.

Placing the book must be done with great patience and tact, for many cultures recognize only one avenue of access to God. It is important that the book be given freely without pressure so that, as an ancient writing states, "When the student is ready, the teacher will appear," and a modern Rodan, having found the book in a library, will present it to his native land.

**Editor's Note:** Julia Fenderson is a General Councilor and Field Representative of URANTIA Brotherhood as well as a member of the International Fellowship Committee. She has traveled extensively, including Europe, the Middle East, and Australia.

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A librarian at the American Hellenic Library in Athens, Greece who accepted a gift copy of *The URANTIA Book*.

## LIBRARY GIFT BOOK FUND EXPLAINED

Since July 2, 1956, URANTIA Brotherhood has had a gift book fund. The main purpose of this fund is to place *The URANTIA Book* in libraries both nationally and internationally. The fund is supported by donations from individuals. Since its inception, 718 copies of *The URANTIA Book* have been donated through this program.

The Brotherhood established this program believing that it is an excellent method of disseminating the teachings simply by making them more available. Over the years, the Brotherhood office has received many letters from persons who either found *The URANTIA Book* by browsing in the library or had heard about the book from someone and wanted to read some of it before deciding to purchase a copy. One person who wrote said she had been reading the book in her local library for six years and finally decided she wanted a copy of her own.

Many people have bought extra copies of *The URANTIA Book* and donated them to libraries which they are personally interested in. For those who do not have the financial means to purchase books for donations, there are two alternatives. First, you can talk to the acquisitions librarian and determine if the library would be interested in purchasing a copy of the book. Libraries receive the maximum discount of 40% for one or more copies.

If there is not an interest in purchasing a copy, then determine if the library will accept a gift copy. It is important that the spokesman for the library agrees that the book will be available to the public and is not subject to a review board that may decide not to put it on the shelves. The point is simply that if the book will not be made available to the public, it would be a wasted donation.

If the library will accept a copy and agrees to make it available to the public, the next step is for either the librarian or you to write URANTIA Brotherhood requesting the gift book and giving the name and address of the library. Then, if there are remaining funds in the program, a book will be sent to the library.

Please direct any questions about the library gift book fund to URANTIA Brotherhood.

## SEVENTH PRINTING FUND DRIVE ACCELERATES

In early March, the Finance Committee of the URANTIA Brotherhood conducted a Phon-a-thon as part of the major program to raise money for the seventh printing of *The URANTIA Book* and to establish a perpetual *URANTIA Book* Printing Fund. About 60 volunteers took their turn with the telephones. This is the first time anything like this has been tried. After the first two or three calls, the callers began to relax and settled in for a busy but enjoyable time. They contacted 1,344 people throughout the continental United States. Of those contacted, 79% either made a pledge, or asked for additional information before committing themselves to a specific amount.

The Fund raisers are greatly encouraged and truly appreciative of the show of support though we are a long way from our goal of \$210,000.00. The total amount pledged so far is in excess of \$90,000. The goal for the Phon-a-thon alone is \$100,000. In addition to the Phon-a-thon and other individual contributions, some contributions are coming from societies and study groups. Special projects have been planned by some groups as one-time efforts to raise money. One Society has raised over \$700.00 and still has a couple of projects in the works.

Frank Sgaraglino, Finance Committee Chairman, said: "We are counting heavily on the 2,000 of you who either said you would decide the amount later when called or were contacted only by letter. Our hope is that you will contribute as generously as possible but, more importantly, in any amount possible. Remember that for every \$9.25 you contribute we will be able to print one book in perpetuity. Just think if you contribute \$200.00 you will be responsible for having over twenty one books printed in perpetuity! Though we have asked everyone to respond by May 1, the important thing is to reach our goal, so please send whatever you can."



Volunteer callers at work during Phon-a-thon.



## NEW DISCOUNT POLICY ADOPTED

by John Hales, Resident Director

On September 12, 1980 an announcement was sent to all those currently on our mailing list telling of the new 20% discount policy established by URANTIA Foundation for individuals who purchase five or more copies of *The URANTIA Book*. This policy was the result of a request made by the Delegates at the Triennial Delegate Assembly, "that URANTIA Societies be allowed to purchase *The URANTIA Book* in case lots of five or ten copies at matching bookstore prices." The Brotherhood Executive Committee discussed the request, drawing up a list of pros and cons, and passed it on to URANTIA Foundation which is responsible for book pricing. The Foundation Trustees reached the decision that the discount should apply to any individual rather than only to societies or members. The Trustees believe this will be the fairest policy. In addition, URANTIA societies will feel no pressure to act as a store and thereby become confronted with the many business and legal concerns of a commercial enterprise.

Thomas Kendall, President of the Foundation, in speaking for the Trustees, wished to share some of the reasoning that went into the policy:

"Approximately 90% of the sales of *The URANTIA Book* are through bookstores and URANTIA Foundation has always wished to utilize bookstores as a major distribution network to increase the availability of the book. Therefore, any policies which jeopardize the distribution network must be carefully considered. At the same time, URANTIA Foundation is aware that many readers of *The URANTIA Book* often wish to buy extra copies of the book as gifts or as loan copies. We believe that a 20% discount satisfies the desire of readers for a discount and at the same time does not make it appear to bookstores that we are not interested in selling books through them because the 20% discount is less than the discount they receive. Moreover, bookstores realize that it is common practice to give retail discounts for quantity purchases and that retail discounts are usually below the wholesale discounts they expect."

There is a need to have an increase in the number of bookstores that will consider stocking *The URANTIA Book*. If the 20% discount policy has a negative impact upon the bookstore trade, it will have to be reviewed. While it is not possible to have a discount policy that pleases everyone, the policy attempts to be fair to all concerned and will be a service to readers of *The URANTIA Book*.

## UPCOMING CONFERENCES

1981 Midwest Regional Conference—September 18-20, Napoleon, Michigan. Theme: The Family.

Contact: Don and Mary Ann Krell, 295 Kingswood Trail, Toledo, Ohio 43615, (419) 535-9566.

## BROTHERHOOD OFFICE REQUESTS YOUR HELP

The full time office staff of URANTIA BROTHERHOOD processes a large volume of mail on a daily basis. To enable them to handle it more efficiently, they request that you remember to do the following whenever sending mail to the Brotherhood Office:

1. Please sign your full name on letters. Many just sign Susie or Bill and we have to guess.
2. Please put your full address on letters. We do not save envelopes and we have to transfer addresses to the letters. Also, sometimes we forget to do this and we are then unable to answer the letter.
3. Please identify all checks that are sent in—whether it is for *The URANTIA Book*, *Concordance of The URANTIA Book*, *Study Aids to Part IV of The URANTIA Book—The Life and Teachings of Jesus*, postage, a contribution, and so forth. We often have to guess or write to ask what a check is for.

## BOOK COVERS OFFERED

The Brotherhood office has received from the family of the late Herman Schell a quantity of blue carrying covers for *The URANTIA Book* which he had been selling. While it has long been the policy not to sell accessory items in connection with the book, due to these circumstances an exception is being made. The covers will be available as long as the supply lasts. The covers are made of light blue vinyl with sturdy black handles. The price is \$5.00 each postpaid. Illinois residents please add 6% tax—30¢.

## POSTAGE RATES SOAR

As of January 1, 1981, the post office raised its prices on international mail of all kinds. The postage to send one copy of *The URANTIA Book* by the standard rate to all foreign countries climbed from \$1.69 to \$2.41. Cartons of five went from \$4.26 to \$10.32. In addition air mail rates for a single book went from \$10.88 to \$17.32 for Europe; from \$15.56 to \$24.52 in Asia and Africa; and from \$6.26 to \$10.12 in Central and South America.

First class air mail also went up sharply in price. The cost is now \$.40 for the first 1/2 ounce and \$.40 for every 1/2 ounce through 2 ounces.

Domestic mail prices went up on March 22, 1981. The cost to mail one copy of *The URANTIA Book* by fourth class mail is now \$1.55.

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