

MINUTES

Annual Meeting of the Assembly of The First Urantia Society of Los Angeles, Calif.
Sunday, July 9, 1967, at the home of Julia & Bill Fenderson, Culver City, Calif.

President Ward Culbertson called the meeting to order at 3:30 p.m.

In the absence of Polly Parke, Secretary, Ward appointed Bill Fenderson as acting secretary.

Sixteen members and three non-members were present.

David Saunders read a paper titled "Now," followed by his request for a moment of silent prayer.

Ward called for reports from officers.

Vice President Julia Fenderson read reports from Chicago on the agenda for the Triennial Meeting for August. Speakers scheduled are Alvin Kulieke, Jacques Weiss, Vern Grimsley and Dr. Meredith Sprunger.

There were no reports from the Secretary or Treasurer as both were absent.

Ward reported that the savings account balance at the Security First National Bank in Culver City was \$589.02 and the checking account, \$203.79. He reminded the membership that dues should be paid up to date as tithes from this society to the Urantia Brotherhood in Chicago were due July 15.

Ward explained that the sole purpose of the savings account was to pay the round trip traveling expenses of a delegate and an alternate from this society to the Triennial Meeting in Chicago. Since the account was set up, he said, \$100 a year has been transferred to the savings account from the checking account for this purpose.

David Saunders announced plans to go north where he intends to found a community made up of persons with an understanding of the Urantia Book. This announcement generated a lively discussion.

Ward then read a copy of a letter to Jacques Weiss from Dr. William S. Sadler cautioning him to beware of irrelevant cults and movements that would try to sidetrack students from the teachings and purpose of the Urantia Book.

Ward read a letter from the Brotherhood on the credentials of Triennial delegates and alternates. He also read a by-law of this society pertaining to the status of members in arrears in their dues. He reported that the Governing Board had discussed this by-law at a June 26 meeting and had voted to bring it before the Assembly to decide whether a defaulting member still retained voting privileges. He read Sec. 1, Article 1, defining the status of members in arrears.

Bob Stean questioned the validity of the by-law, pointing out that it set no specific time limit when a member is to be ruled inactive and be penalized by losing his voting privileges from non-payment of dues.

Fred Squires moved and Julia Fenderson seconded that a committee be appointed to research and review the Constitution and By-Laws of this society and report back at an Assembly meeting for a vote by that body. Ward said he would defer naming a committee, leaving that up to the new president.

Ward announced that it was time to elect new officers for the coming year.

Bruce Davison, chairman of the Nominating Committee, reported on the nominations. The committee was composed of Helen Steen, Maria Culbertson, Ben Schiavo, Fred Squires and Bruce.

Nominations were:

Julia Fenderson - President
Bruce Davison - Vice President
Helen Steen - Treasurer
Bill Fenderson - Secretary
Gloria Sarnacki - Education Chairman
Ben Schiavo - Membership Chairman
Polly Parke - Hospitality Chairman

Nominations were closed with one nominee for each office with the exception of Secretary — Bill Fenderson declining to run. Three others — Ward Culbertson, Maria Culbertson and Teri Gray — were nominated from the floor, each declining. Georgia Gecht was nominated and accepted.

The following were elected:

Julia Fenderson - President
Bruce Davison - Vice President
Helen Steen - Treasurer
Georgia Hecht - Secretary
Gloria Sarnacki - Education Chairman
Ben Schiavo - Membership Chairman
Polly Parke - Hospitality Chairman

(Acting Secretary's Note: Ben Schiavo and Polly Park, although absent, were elected without opposition)

Bob Steen moved and Julia Fenderson seconded that the Assembly give Ward Culbertson a vote of thanks for his faithful and outstanding service as President of the society for two years. It was unanimously approved.

In thanking the group for assisting him during his term, Ward said: "Maybe we've grown — I don't know. But I do know we've done the best we could."

Ward then installed the officers present.

Julia Fenderson, as the new President, praised Ward for his faithful service and paid special tribute to both Maria and Ward for opening their home to the many study meetings. "We realize what you have so faithfully tried to do and we still need your help," she told the Culbertsons.

Julia then read a quotation from the Urantia Book, Page 291, Paragraph 3, appropriate to the occasion:

" . . . But long before reaching Havona, these ascendant children of time have learned to feast upon uncertainty, to fatten upon disappointment, to enthuse over apparent defeat, to invigorate in the presence of difficulties, to exhibit indomitable courage in the face of immensity, and to exercise unconquerable faith when confronted with the challenge of the inexplicable. Long since, the battle cry of these pilgrims became: 'In liaison with God, nothing — absolutely nothing — is impossible.'"

Julia appointed Bob Steen, Fred Squires and Bruce Davison to the Constitution and By-Laws Committee, with Bob as chairman.

The meeting was adjourned to a social hour.

Respectfully submitted by
Bill Fenderson
Acting Secretary
