

*A great meeting!*  
*JL*

Annual Report  
August 24, 1969

### PRESIDENT'S REPORT

I wish to thank each member of our First Urantia Society of Los Angeles and each participant in the School of Meanings and Values for their dedicated and selfless work during the past two years. These endeavors have been successful only because of this unselfish and devoted service from each of you.

Some of the successful endeavors, among many others are listed below:

The School of Meanings and Values. The president presented the idea for this school to Chicago more than two years ago to insure their approval before we started planning. Nancy Otto Hoag suggested the name of our school, which won immediate and lasting approval. Georgia Gecht was our first teacher and worked very hard in the initial planning and presentations. She taught the first semester on the following topics: 1. Meanings and Values 2. Universe Realities 3. Universe Power System. Maria Culbertson also worked very hard the second semester as teacher of the topic Thought Adjusters. These two teachers deserve much credit for the vast amount of work required to prepare for a study session each month. We met the first Sunday of each month in Culver City for the School of Meanings and Values and members of the various study groups converged for this monthly meeting.

Study Groups in Various Locales. It is necessary in this large geographic area to have small study groups meeting in various homes to carry on the weekly study. These may vary from place to place due to different interests and length of time one has had the book. We feel this is good and we encourage these different types of meetings as we believe in unity but not uniformity. Some of the active small groups carrying on very worthwhile programs are:

Riverside group under the leadership of the Robert Wolds' family.  
Children's Study Group under Mrs. Polly Parke  
San Fernando Study Group- Parkes, Bedells, Hoags and others  
Monrovia Study Group- Mrs. Mabel Davison  
Santa Monica Study Group- Mrs. Georgia Gecht  
Fullerton Study Group- Jerry Bowden

And there are others meeting from time to time for specific purposes. Mrs. Fenderson meets with many newcomers who wish certain explanations of the book, and who later join a study group nearest them.

Treasury - This year we are proud to announce that we have the largest amount in the treasury that we have ever had since the origin of our First Urantia Society. This announcement makes us doubly proud because when we took office two years ago the treasury had the lowest amount it had ever had, so due to the concerted effort of all members, we have come from the lowest to the highest. Special credit is here due the Ben Schiavos who put on the delicious spaghetti supper for fund raising purposes and which turned out to be one of our most successful ventures thanks to the Schiavos. In addition, donations and dues have helped.

Music - is an addition to our group this last two years and we hope to expand this. The president duplicated the words and music for the following songs which we hope to use again at many events:

Let There Be Peace on Earth by Sy Miller and Jill Jackson

Battle Hymn of the Republic

Michael Row the Boat Ashore, Negro Spiritual

Swing Low Sweet Chariot " "

He's Got the Whole World in His Hands " "

Holy Holy Holy

There will be many others, and some of the creative musicians in our Los Angeles Society have promised to write some music for our joyous singing groups.

We have only 23 in our active membership and our total membership is 44 of the First Urantia Society of Los Angeles, but we have 87 on our mailing list of nearby study groups, many of which come to our monthly meetings in Culver City.

Visitors from other Urantia Groups bring great joy to us and are always cause for a celebration. Berkeley Elliott visited us last August 18 and attended our birthday meeting and dinner. She spoke to us about their meetings and some of the things they are doing in Oklahoma City to further the Urantia cause and inspired us greatly. Please come often, Berkeley.

Other very welcome visitors were Ruth and Bob Burton, who stayed in the Santa Monica area for a couple of the winter months. They made five presentations to study groups in the various locations of the Los Angeles area. We also had three bigger meetings in our School of Meanings and Values where Ruth and Bob showed their beautiful slides of the Holy Land and presented the correlative passages from the Urantia Book. This was second best to actually visiting the land where Jesus lived and it was a rare treat for all of us. These presentations inspired our group to begin to plan a guided Urantia tour to that area led by our Malcolm Neals who are in this business each summer. Helen Steen from our group is now taking a world tour with them and they are sincerely interested in planning a tour for Urantia students for another summer.

The Clyde Bedells also visited us and have promised to come again when Clyde Bedell will speak to our group about his Concordex which he has been preparing for Urantia Book students.

The last section of this report will be devoted to the great news that Vern Grimsley now has a radio broadcast in our Los Angeles area. When I made my annual report at this time last year, I presented the dream and hope that someday we might be able to hear this Family of God program by Vern in our area. As the cost is \$8,000.00 a year at a very minimum, it seemed very difficult for our modest group to raise that amount of money. However, members donated from time to time to his Family of God Foundation, and Vern kept writing to KTYM in Inglewood near us to try to get on the air on one of their public services times which are held for education and religion and are extremely difficult to get on, as the radio stations operate for money and wish to sell their time. KTYM - 1460-a.m.

However, when Vern and Nancy arrived at the International Airport recently for a meeting where Vern was scheduled to speak to our group, he asked if we could drive him to Inglewood to the KTYM station for an appointment, which we did. While we waited in the car, you can believe we were all praying for his guidance and for the

guidance and direction of the men who were meeting with Vern. About an hour latter, Vern returned with the good news that he is on KTYM at 2:30 each Monday and Friday and free.

You can imagine our delight in the Los Angeles area, for now we can hear messages and the philosophy expressed in the Urantia Book on Vern's broadcast called the Family of God. He does not use the name Urantia Book nor does he quote exactly, as he is careful to observe all copyright laws and, in addition, he does not believe the time is ripe for the book to be broadcast. We have been told many times and the book tells us that over-rapid growth is suicidal, so it is best that the growth has been steady and continuous, not over-rapid.

In conclusion, please accept sincere greetings and best wishes from all students in Chicago. So many called me or talked to me and sent their greetings and an invitation to visit our study groups in Chicago. It is good to keep these communications lines open.

#### Recommendations for the Future:

1. It is strongly recommended that our Society explore all possible ways to back Vern Bennon Grimsley's Family of God radio broadcast and that we continually remind members of our group to write to the station in favor of this broadcast. It is further recommended that we begin to request that this broadcast be placed on KTYM in Inglewood on a daily basis at 2:30 p.m..
2. It is recommended that we financially support the Family of God Foundation in every possible way and that we explore other ways to support this Foundation to carry the message to people all over the nation. This means that we are helping to disseminate the teachings of the Book as Vern is doing just that.
3. It is also recommended that we immediately place in operation Bruce Davison's plan (outlined at our last meeting) in which he will assign members to libraries and books stores in specified geographic areas and make them responsible to follow through to see that these books are actually available. Chicago has prepared brochures to be placed in book stores. We can obtain these brochures and we may prepare additional ones according to Bruce's plans. Our first step will be to pass a motion to purchase ten books at whole sale price for Bruce Davison and then instruct the treasurer to do so.
4. Our continual recommendation is that we maintain strong spiritual unity but not uniformity, and that love for all men is our goal. "Love is the desire to do good to others."

\* We want to assure the new president, Lt. Hoite Caston that he has our complete support and our continual cooperation in any endeavor that the Society undertakes.

Respectfully submitted,  
 Julia K. Fenderson  
 President