

July 8, 1984

Dear RMUS-D member,

Enclosed you will find the first draft of the statement on our beliefs that the society has requested from the Planning Committee in preparation of defining our goals, purposes and mission. The belief statement is the first step in this process of defining "who are we and what should we be doing." This statement is the result of at least 5 meetings and the input of more than a dozen people. We now want your input and ideas. Please read through these statements and edit, change and eliminate the ideas that you do not agree with. REWRITE them as you see fit, tell us your thoughts on them and this whole process. You are the most important part of this process and without your help these beliefs and later missions and purposes statements will not reflect our whole society, only parts.

We have a deadline established for returning them- Sept. 1, 1984. Please take the time to do this and send them to Jill Hull, 121 High Parkway, Golden, Colo. 80403. The committee will compile them and coordinate the responses and ultimately the whole society will approve the final but hopefully always evolving statements on these various topics.

Thanks so much for you time and contributions.

Sincerely,

The Planning Committee

planning

Belief statements—first draft—Planning Comm. RMUS-D.

signed
local level
Chartered
Aff. Branch

"Within our society"—Jim McNelly— Our Urantia Society serves as a microcosm of a larger Brotherhood where we, as individuals, delegate our sovereignty to the group wisdom of a democratic assembly. We practice the art of administration in order to more fully socialize ourselves and our families into a faith-trust where truth may grow and group wisdom may spontaneously arise.

"Beliefs about the URANTIA BOOK" John Roper—We, the members of the Rocky Mt. URANTIA Society -Denver believe that the Urantia Book is the fifth epochal revelation on this planet, and has been given to the peoples of Urantia so that we may have a fuller understanding of universe cosmology and of the life and teachings of Jesus. We believe that a thorough study of the Urantia Book will transform individuals who will transform this planet into the age of Light and Life. We believe that the knowledge with the highest value is that of the life and teachings of Jesus, and the best presentation of that knowledge exists in the Urantia Book. We also believe that the fundamental teaching of the Urantia Book is the truth of the Fatherhood of God and the Brotherhood of Man.

"Beliefs regarding Urantia Brotherhood and other Urantia societies" Jack Kane—We believe that the Urantia Brotherhood and its Societies are an organization to which Urantia Book readers may belong and foster those purposes and activities best achieved and served through such an organization. We endorse the constitution of the Urantia Brotherhood, and its provision for democratic functioning and change. We feel communication with, and participation and representation in the Urantia Brotherhood is very desirable, and offers a further means of support, fellowship, and involvement concerning the Urantia Book revelation.

"Beliefs regarding other U.B. readers who are not society members" Jane Roper— *We are children of God and therefore brothers & sisters*
We believe that all men are our brothers and God is our heavenly Parent, therefore there is no "them" and "us" in our feelings, attitudes, and thoughts toward other people that read the book. We all experience the realization that we are one family despite organizational or even philosophical differences and we realize that we all are fulfilling our destinies in the creation of the kingdom of heaven on earth. We respect and support each brother and sister in their creation and outreach as it is manifested through each unique personality expression.

"Belief regarding education" John Hay —We believe that education is the password for the next age of planetary evolution. We believe that educating the peoples of the world in and to the teachings of The

Urantia Book will bring joy and truth to present and future generations. We believe that education should be concerned with facts only insofar as these may assist "the living truth" and that the aim of those entrusted with fostering education should be to enhance the individual's sensitivity to, and ability to take advantage of, the education potentials of the experiences of life. We believe that education is the process whereby we acquire new means to solve life's problems and to meet its challenges. It is not, however, separate from the activities of 'life as usual' any more than is religion.

"Belief regarding outreach" Archie Anderson- We of the R.M.U.S.-D., believe it is our sacred trust to promote the Fatherhood of God and the Brotherhood of Man with everyone we meet and to share the superb teachings of the Urantia Book with other religionists here in the Rocky Mountain region by every means available to us. The avenues of promulgation should be wisely chosen using the inspiration of Jesus's ministry and prayerful meditation. Our efforts should be of the highest quality and arrived at by group majority consent.

"Belief regarding growth" Don Guimond- We believe in progressive and stable growth. ^{which we believe} We believe growth takes place on spiritual, mental and physical levels for individuals, the Society, the community at large and the Movement. We believe our actions and policies can foster and enhance positive growth. While we know growth is unconscious, we believe many areas do have measurable gauges, such as book sales, study groups, membership and attendance at activities.

BELIEF STATEMENTS - FIRST REVISION

WITHIN SOCIETY We believe in order to reflect the social ideals expressed in The Urantia Book, our Society serves as a democratic assembly of loving and supportive individuals. We seek group wisdom in our decision making, foster spiritual growth, provide for worship and socialization and affirm the teachings of Jesus in our daily lives.

ABOUT THE URANTIA BOOK We believe that The Urantia Book is the Fifth Epochal revelation from the universe government to the mortals of this world and has been given so we may have a fuller understanding of God, universe cosmology, planetary history and the life and teachings of Jesus. We believe living The Urantia Book teachings will transform individuals who will help establish the Kingdom of heaven on earth.

BROTHERHOOD AND OTHER U.B. READERS We believe that the Urantia Brotherhood and its societies provide an organized forum for socializing the teachings of The Urantia Book. We are a democratic, autonomous association of the Brotherhood and endorse its constitution. We support communication, participation, and representation in the Urantia Brotherhood. We believe in working cooperatively and peacefully with all societies and Urantia Book readers. We encourage study groups as a basic way of sharing the teachings of The Urantia Book. We respect and support all Urantia Book readers regardless of membership status.

EDUCATION We believe that educating the peoples of the world in and to the teachings of The Urantia Book will bring joy and truth to present and future generations. And that "of all human knowledge, that which is of greatest value is to know the religious life of Jesus and how he lived it." We believe that education is best concerned with facts only insofar as these may assist "the living truth" and that those intrusted with fostering education enhance the individual's sensitivity to and ability to take advantage of the educational potentials of the experiences of life. We believe that education is the process whereby we acquire new means to solve life's problems and to meet its challenges.

PLANNING: PART I -- BELIEF STATEMENT

BELIEFS:

DEFINITION:

Beliefs are the statements about our philosophy that describe (a) the basic value system which will govern the decisions and actions of the Fraternal Relations Committee, and (b) the relationships that should exist between the committee and its various constituencies, internal and external.

Beliefs (philosophy, creed, principles) are the basic value system established to guide all of the actions of the Fraternal Relations Committee. Beliefs represent the most deeply-felt convictions of our team regarding our committee's function within the world of religion and our relationship within and outside the Urantia Brotherhood.

One characteristic of beliefs is that once they are written, many of them look self-evident. But since men and women of good will differ as to priorities, interpretation, and selective emphasis in regard to beliefs, it is vital to reach an articulated agreement or a loving "agreement to disagree" with the majority view prevailing.

INSTRUCTIONS:

The belief and mission section of the plan will set the stage for developing our objectives. Every word of our belief and mission statements is important. We will not labor over the exact verbiage in any other section of the plan as carefully as we labor to be exact in our beliefs and mission. What we believe in, as well as what our mission is, provides the foundation for our actions. A good belief section should not be more than one page long.

I have identified 7 areas of beliefs that are relevant to our committee's success in achieving our mission as set forth in the Brotherhood's constitution. If you see areas of beliefs I have missed, please write them in a similar format as those presented here. I have written my personal view of our beliefs to provide a base to start from. These writings are only drafts and need your criticisms and rewriting. Don't worry about hurting my feelings with your rewriting. If we concentrate on what is right, not who is right, we will all be able to submit our ideas without fear of condemnation.

Once you have returned this section with your input, I will collate everyone's thoughts and rewrite our beliefs and mission. It will then be resubmitted to you for polishing. This process will reoccur until we are in agreement.

DEADLINE DATE ON RETURNING YOUR IDEAS ON DRAFT 1 OF THE BELIEF STATEMENT: MARCH 30, 1984

Section 1: BELIEFS OF THE FRATERNAL RELATIONS COMMITTEE:

DESTINY OF THE URANTIA BOOK:

We believe that the Urantia Book is the Fifth Epochal Revelation from the Universe government to the mortals of our world, Urantia. We view the Urantia book as a powerful force for good and believe that it has a major world mission that will help transform individuals into more spiritually filled, God conscious, loving, and joyous individuals. We believe that the followers of the Urantia Book teachings will eventually grow into a 'world religion' that will ultimately become the most spiritually dominant of the world religions.

OUR RELATIONSHIP WITH OTHER WORLD RELIGIONS: We believe that all the world religions are filled with truth that will improve the individual's personal relationship with God. We respect these truths and endeavor to spread the similarities between each religion's teachings and the Urantia Book. We believe in the peaceful evolutionary leavening of all the world's religions by lovingly spreading the teachings of the Urantia Book to interested followers of other religions. We believe that the Urantia Book has a world mission and that we must appeal to Western and Eastern religions alike.

SPIRITUAL OUTREACH: We believe that in order to serve as Michael of Nebadon wants us to, we must wisely yet aggressively spread the Urantia Book and its great teachings to other world religious believers. In all our outreach ministry, we seek our inspiration from the Master's ministry as revealed in the Urantia Book. (We believe that our outreach must be excellent quality.)

GROWTH: We believe in steady and stable growth. We view the addition of new Urantia Book believers as an evolutionary process that we can have an effect upon. We believe that quality of growth is more important than quantity, which leads us to place a premium on the quality and wisdom of our outreach methodology. We believe that we should accomplish the most important tasks that will serve the greatest good.

TIMING: We believe that we must be ^{4p.} persistent, patient, and long ^{range} range in our work. What we are doing now is preparing the way for future generations to understand the Urantia Book. We believe in maximizing our service to this revelation by hard and intelligent work.

RELATIONSHIP WITHIN THE URANTIA BROTHERHOOD: The Fraternal Relations Committee is part of the Urantia Brotherhood. We endorse the Constitution of the Brotherhood and seek to work harmoniously with all the committees of the Brotherhood.

RELATIONSHIP WITH THE UNIVERSE GOVERNMENT: We believe that many orders of universe personalities are working to make this world a more spiritual place to live. Before undertaking any major efforts, we believe in attempting to look at the projects as the angels and

midwayers would, imagining the consequences over time. We specifically intend to work with the religious guardian angels; the angels of progress; and the angels of the future. We fully pledge our loyalty to the government of Michael of Nebadon and wholeheartedly want Michael's leadership.