

TALK BY THOMAS A. KENDALL
PRESIDENT OF URANTIA FOUNDATION
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I am very happy to be here. This is my first trip to the west coast and I'm going to enjoy seeing old friends and meeting many others for the first time.

Before I review what the URANTIA Foundation actually does, I want to read the principal object from the DECLARATION OF TRUST CREATING URANTIA FOUNDATION:

The object for which this Foundation is created is the promotion, improvement, and expansion among the peoples of the world of the comprehension and understanding of Cosmology and the relation of the planet on which we live to the Universe, of the genesis and destiny of Man and his relation to God, and of the true teachings of Jesus Christ; and for the inculcation and encouragement of the realization and appreciation of the Fatherhood of God and the Brotherhood of Man--in order to increase and enhance the comfort, happiness, and well being of Man, as an individual and as a member of society, through the fostering of a religion, a philosophy, and a cosmology which are commensurate with Man's cultural development.

The Object, which I've just read, is our guideline for the way in which we try to conduct our affairs. Now, just what does the Foundation do.

1. PUBLISHING. The Foundation is the holder of the copyright to and is the sole publisher of, The URANTIA Book. Providing a continuing supply of books is probably our most important single activity.

The third printing is about exhausted and we will have the fourth printing ready in July. This latest printing will number 25,000 copies which we expect will last about three years. Our current selling rate is 575 books per month, and increasing. It is interesting to note that in the entire year of 1958 we sold only 388 books.

2. COPYRIGHT, NAME AND SYMBOL. We take very seriously the duty we have to protect the copyright, the name URANTIA, and the symbol of three concentric circles from unauthorized use. We have registered the name and symbol widely.

We have been quite successful in gently, and in a conciliatory way, persuading individuals and groups not to use them without our permission. Unfortunately this approach doesn't work 100 percent of the time and if there are serious unresolved violations, we have no choice but to refer these matters to our attorneys.

3. CORRESPONDENCE AND VISITORS AT HEADQUARTERS. As the sales of the Book steadily increase, so does the volume of mail and the number of visitors to 533 Diversey. More and more people are becoming aware of The URANTIA Book, although we are still not what you would call "well known." Our limited staff works very hard to give each letter, visitor, or phone call friendly and helpful attention. We are impressed with the general quality of inquiry we receive.

4. GENERAL WATCHCARE OVER THE URANTIA MOVEMENT. URANTIA Foundation was created in 1950 to hold the copyright and publish The URANTIA Book. The Trustees of URANTIA Foundation in turn encouraged and participated in the organization of URANTIA Brotherhood early in 1955, a few months before the publication of the Book. We feel an obligation to foster the health and wise growth of the entire URANTIA movement and will continue to do so.

WHAT CAN YOU DO FOR URANTIA FOUNDATION? We ask your continued support and solicit your ideas and suggestions. We want you to bring problems to our attention. Keep us advised of developments. Then we ask that you be patient and understand that problems cannot always be resolved immediately.

WHAT ARE OUR FUTURE NEEDS? The number one need is funds. The entire URANTIA organization--Brotherhood and Foundation-- is considerably underfinanced. We are not poor, but growth carries with it the need for more and more money for projects, translations, legal expenses, publishing, increased staff, etc. Right now we have to be quite selective about where we commit funds.

As the new Foundation president, I want to say that I am very happy with the quality and dedication of the other board members serving with me: Kenton Stephens, James Mills, Edith Cook, and Martin Myers.

In addition to the five board members we are fortunate to have the services of two Trustees Emeritus--Christy and Bill Hales. Christy is our Secretary and continuous inspiration. Her superior insight into our activities is based on her many years of experience. She really is the living symbol, and embodies the essence, of the URANTIA teachings.

William Hales has served as our President for 23 years, since the creation of the Foundation. His dedicated stewardship has been vital to the long range interests of The URANTIA Revelation. It will be difficult indeed to equal his efficient, devoted record of service. Fortunately he will continue to serve as a valuable advisor.

In conclusion, our work is varied, growing, and extremely important. A quotation from Page 556 of The URANTIA Book sums up the attitude we have
* toward our duty as Trustees of URANTIA Foundation: "The weak indulge in resolutions, but the strong act. Life is but a day's work--do it well. The act is ours; the consequences God's."

I am looking forward to the presentations to be given. This is an important meeting, in that it is an example of the posture I feel URANTIA believers should, in the main, adopt--that of educators.