

1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE DISTRICT COURT OF ARIZONA

URANTIA FOUNDATION,)
)
Plaintiff,)
)
vs.) CIV 91-0325
)
KRISTEN MAAHERRA,)
)
Defendant.)

COPY

The discovery deposition of
MARY LOU HALES, taken in the above-entitled cause
before LYDIA MSZAL, C.S.R., a notary public in and
for the County of Cook and State of Illinois, on
the 20th day of October, 1994 at 815 Sumac,
Winnetka, Illinois, at the hour of 10:00 o'clock
a.m, pursuant to subpoena.

1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24

PRESENT:

BOOTH, WADE & CAMPBELL
BY: MR. L. DALE OWENS
Cumberland Center II
3100 Cumberland Circle
Suite 1500
Atlanta, Georgia 30339-5939
(414) 850-5004

On behalf of the Plaintiff;

CLEARY & KOMEN
BY: MR. JOSEPH D. LEWIS
600 Pennsylvania Avenue, SE
Washington, D.C. 20003-4304
(202) 675-4700

On behalf of the Defendant.

REPORTED BY:

LYDIA MSZAL

1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24

INDEX

WITNESS

MARY LOU HALES

EXAMINATION

PAGE

By Mr. Lewis

4

By Mr. Owens

38

EXHIBITS

NUMBER

PAGE

NO EXHIBITS MARKED

1 (Witness sworn)

2 MARY LOU HALES,

3 called as a witness herein, having been first duly
4 sworn, was examined and testified as follows:

5 EXAMINATION

6 BY MR. LEWIS:

7 Q. Good morning, Mrs. Hales.

8 A. Good morning.

9 Q. Have you ever had your deposition taken
10 before?

11 A. No.

12 Q. Let me explain briefly what the
13 procedures are.

14 I will be asking you a series of
15 questions and may also be showing you some papers
16 to ask you some questions about.

17 The court reporter will be taking down
18 everything that you say or that anyone else here
19 says today.

20 If at any time it's unclear what I'm
21 asking, please let me know, and I will clarify the
22 question for you.

23 A. All right. Fine.

24 Q. And if at any time you feel you need to

1 take a break, just feel free to ask, and we'll take
2 a short break.

3 A. All right. Fine.

4 Q. Would you state your full name for the
5 record?

6 A. Mary Lou Hales.

7 Q. And what is your address?

8 A. 815 Sumac Lane, Winnetka.

9 Q. And that's the location where we are
10 taking this deposition today?

11 A. Yes.

12 Q. How long have you lived at this address?

13 A. About 21 years.

14 Q. Give us a little idea of your educational
15 background.

16 A. Well, I graduated from Beloit College,
17 with a BA and went to Northwestern for a night
18 school course in writing. Otherwise, I'm
19 uneducated.

20 Q. Well, what is your employment history?

21 A. Well, after I graduated from Beloit, it
22 was during the depression, in the 1930s, and I went
23 to Mozure Business School, took a secretarial
24 course. And then after that I went looking for a

1 job. And they were rather hard to find because
2 everyone wanted you to have experience.

3 So I decided I would take temporary jobs
4 in order to have experience and so I could say I
5 had experience.

6 So I did that for about a month. And
7 then I did find a job through a friend, and I
8 worked for three different gentlemen in three
9 different businesses, all connecting offices. And
10 I worked there for about a year and a half I
11 think. And I just disliked business work
12 entirely. So anyway, after I left that, and then
13 shortly, thereafter, I was married.

14 Q. What year was that?

15 A. 1933.

16 Q. What area did you grow up in as a child?

17 A. In Oak Park, Illinois.

18 Q. Did your family have a religion at that
19 time?

20 A. Oh, yes. They were staunch, and my
21 mother was staunch Episcopalian.

22 Q. Were you an Episcopalian when you were in
23 that household?

24 A. Yes.

1 Q. Are you familiar with The Urantia Book?

2 A. Yes, indeed.

3 Q. Are you familiar with the term "the
4 Urantia papers?"

5 A. Yes, I am.

6 Q. Explain what the Urantia papers are from
7 your point of view?

8 A. Well, they are a collection of papers,
9 which were made up into a book, and which was then
10 published in 1954, '55, thereabouts.

11 Q. Let me show you what's previously been
12 marked as Exhibit 9 from the deposition of Bernard
13 Dietz and ask you if this is the book to which you
14 are referring?

15 A. Yes, it is.

16 Q. Which did you learn of first, The Urantia
17 Book or the Urantia papers?

18 A. The Urantia papers in 1932. My fiance
19 introduced me to the knowledge of the papers.
20 Before that I knew nothing about them at all.

21 Q. And your fiance at that time was?

22 A. Was William Hales.

23 Q. Who ultimately became your husband?

24 A. Uh-huh.

1 Q. How were they introduced to you?

2 A. Well, rather romantically. We were --
3 you want all this detail?

4 Q. Please.

5 A. Well, we used to go dancing almost every
6 weekend at the Drake Hotel because we love to
7 dance, and they had wonderful orchestras, and it
8 was a marvelous place to dance in those days.

9 And so one weekend we were up there and
10 had a table rather close to the orchestra, and I
11 knew Bill was telling me something that was quite
12 important to him, but I couldn't really hear more
13 than one third of it. But I very -- agreed with
14 whatever he said.

15 See, he was telling me about the papers,
16 and wondering if I would like to join a group that
17 was studying the papers.

18 So of course, I said yes."

19 And then later on, I got more information
20 from him. And -- without the music -- and we went
21 to -- then he took me over to meet Dr. Sadler, and
22 introduced me to him. And he told me a little more
23 about the organization or about the meetings and so
24 forth and asked me if I would like to come and

1 study the papers over there and sort of join the
2 group that was studying the papers.

3 So, of course, I said I would be very
4 interested in doing that.

5 And I went over then -- I had to read the
6 papers that had already been read to the group. I
7 had to catch up with them. So I had about 32
8 papers to read. And since none of the papers could
9 leave the premises, I would drive over in the
10 afternoons, sometimes during the week and read a
11 paper or two or three, however many I could read.

12 And so, eventually, I got through all 32
13 papers, and they then said I could become a member
14 of the group.

15 Q. Okay. What's the name of the group to
16 which you're referring?

17 A. Well, they called it the Forum at that
18 time.

19 Q. When you met with Dr. Sadler, you
20 referred to that meeting. What did he explain to
21 you about the Urantia papers?

22 A. Oh, my, I don't really remember the exact
23 words or what he said.

24 But he told me that they were papers that

1 they had received, and they seemed to be on a
2 number of different subjects, and they were rather
3 unusual in the way in which they had been
4 received. And that anything I was told there, I
5 was not to discuss with anyone else.

6 Q. Did he tell you -- I'm sorry, did you
7 finish your answer?

8 A. Uh-huh.

9 Q. Did he tell you where they were received
10 from?

11 A. No, no, he didn't.

12 Q. Were you curious about that subject?

13 A. Oh, yes, of course, I wondered.

14 Q. Did you join this group known as the
15 Forum?

16 A. Yes, I did.

17 Q. As a member of the group, what did you
18 do?

19 A. We attended every Sunday afternoon, and
20 Dr. Sadler would read a paper and then there might
21 be some discussion of it. But as a rule, we were
22 all -- sat there very much interested, very
23 interested in what he was reading. And we did ask
24 some questions which he would answer, if he thought

1 best. And so that's what we did every Sunday.

2 Q. In the question and answer that you're
3 referring to, did he give interpretations of the
4 papers?

5 A. No, no. He might -- well, he might
6 explain a little bit. He might explain a bit. But
7 he did not put his interpretation on it, in a way,
8 if you can see the difference.

9 So we really -- I think he was more
10 interested in our hearing the papers and accepting
11 them or not, whichever we wanted to do. It was up
12 to us individually to cover whatever you wish to
13 do.

14 Q. Were there any members of this group
15 known as the Forum who did not accept the papers?

16 A. I think there were a few that dropped out
17 eventually. Some lost interest, you know, and
18 maybe some had to move away and that sort of
19 thing. But those who moved away stayed interested,
20 many times they stayed interested in the papers,
21 but they just couldn't attend. But there were a
22 few that dropped out maybe. I don't know why
23 exactly, but they did.

24 Q. But those who remained, had all of them

1 best. And so that's what we did every Sunday.

2 Q. In the question and answer that you're
3 referring to, did he give interpretations of the
4 papers?

5 A. No, no. He might -- well, he might
6 explain a little bit. He might explain a bit. But
7 he did not put his interpretation on it, in a way,
8 if you can see the difference.

9 So we really -- I think he was more
10 interested in our hearing the papers and accepting
11 them or not, whichever we wanted to do. It was up
12 to us individually to cover whatever you wish to
13 do.

14 Q. Were there any members of this group
15 known as the Forum who did not accept the papers?

16 A. I think there were a few that dropped out
17 eventually. Some lost interest, you know, and
18 maybe some had to move away and that sort of
19 thing. But those who moved away stayed interested,
20 many times they stayed interested in the papers,
21 but they just couldn't attend. But there were a
22 few that dropped out maybe. I don't know why
23 exactly, but they did.

24 Q. But those who remained, had all of them

1 accepted the papers?

2 A. Yes, they all did.

3 Q. Now, when we talk about "accepting the
4 papers," explain what you mean by that?

5 A. Well, we accepted the background, I would
6 say maybe, of the papers. And we did have a slight
7 knowledge. Dr. Sadler did tell us, eventually,
8 about how they came through a subject, not written
9 by that subject, but apparently he was speaking,
10 and somebody else's voice was coming through him,
11 giving the information of the papers.

12 Q. Did he identify the name of the subject?

13 A. No, we never knew that, and he said we
14 never would know it.

15 Q. Did he tell you why you would never know
16 it?

17 A. He just thought it was best not to for
18 the subject's sake and for everybody's sake. The
19 subject was not important, really. It was the
20 material of the papers that was important.

21 Q. Did he tell you, for example, whether it
22 was a male or female?

23 A. No, he didn't.

24 Q. Or any other kind of general identifying

1 information?

2 A. No, no. I don't know to this day whether
3 it was male or female.

4 Q. After the papers were read at the Forum
5 meetings, what transpired after that for the
6 remainder of the meeting?

7 A. Oh, well we talked, and we always had an
8 intermission, a half time, so to speak, and we
9 would have some refreshments, that sort of thing,
10 and we all chattered together and, of course, our
11 group you see was unique in a way because of this
12 whole happening.

13 And the Doctor said that it was, he
14 thought, a revelation. And we were all quite in
15 awe of the fact that we were there. I mean, after
16 all, who are we, just ordinary people.

17 And that was the nicest thing about this
18 group, is that they were all ordinary people, you
19 know, from all walks of life and all different
20 interests and all different businesses and
21 whatnot.

22 And we didn't really know many of the
23 people at all when we went in. Bill's mother and
24 father belonged before he did and before I did.

1 But we were -- all had this one interest so we were
2 all very friendly and had a good time together and
3 were just enjoying what we were doing.

4 Q. Now, when you joined, 32 papers -- are
5 those the total number that were in existence at
6 that time?

7 A. Oh, no, no. There were more, I'm sure,
8 because he kept bringing in papers every Sunday,
9 there would be another paper.

10 Q. Well, my question is, first, do you know
11 how many Urantia papers there are today?

12 A. Yes, I think so.

13 Q. Refer to the book if you'd like to.

14 A. Let me see back here. The Jesus papers
15 were the last ones to come through -- 179.

16 Q. Would you like to refer to the Table of
17 Contents, it might be simpler.

18 A. 196 papers.

19 Q. Now, out of the 32 papers that you
20 referred to that you read, which paper numbers are
21 they? What are the numbers of those papers?

22 A. This would have been from 1 to 32, 1 to
23 32.

24 Q. Now, I note the Table of Contents also

1 has a Foreword. Was that available to you when you
2 joined the Forum?

3 A. Yes, it was. And they told me just to
4 read through it quickly and not to try to
5 understand it. It was very deep and material that
6 I -- really was rather hard to understand. And
7 they said it wasn't necessary to understand it at
8 this point in time, just to go through it so I can
9 say I read it and then start with the number 1 and
10 go through to 32.

11 Q. Now, at the time you joined and you were
12 reading these 32 papers, were the papers that are
13 numbered 33 to 196, do you know whether they were
14 in existence at that time?

15 A. No, I don't know, I don't.

16 Q. Do you know if any Forum members had
17 access to them?

18 A. No, not unless they were the Contact
19 Commission.

20 Q. Were you present at the reading of
21 additional papers after number 32?

22 A. Oh, yes.

23 Q. How many of those were you present at
24 approximately?

1 A. Well, all 196.

2 Q. Okay. How about the first time that
3 these papers were read to the Forum?

4 A. Well, I don't know how many, whatever
5 had come through, he read. I don't know how many
6 it would have been the first time.

7 Q. Well, I guess in 1932 when you joined, do
8 you know how many had come through at that time?

9 A. No, I don't know. I assumed, I assumed
10 that only 32 had come through because that's the
11 ones they had read and the ones I had to read.
12 Let's see --

13 Q. If we use the term "Urantia movement,"
14 what does that term mean to you?

15 A. Well, I don't know, what do you call,
16 "revelation?"

17 If you have to call it something you
18 would call it the Urantia movement, I presume.

19 And it was, apparently -- our function was
20 to become more acquainted with the papers so that
21 eventually we could possibly become teachers or --
22 and help other people to understand the papers and
23 so forth.

24 So then as we grew and as the whole

1 movement I should say grew, that is what we were, I
2 suppose heading for, was to become
3 teacher/trainers.

4 Q. We're talking about from 1932 until what
5 date were you a member of the Forum?

6 A. Until the book was published. You see
7 after the book was published, then the Forum, as
8 such, I think more or less, had done what it was
9 supposed to do. But we still met and still read
10 papers and so forth, had meetings.

11 Q. Were those meetings different in kind
12 than the type of meetings you had as a Forum
13 member?

14 A. No, they were pretty much the same.

15 Q. Did you ever have any official capacities
16 with any Urantia book related organization?

17 A. Yes. Within the group, yes, I was
18 president of the First Society at one point. I was
19 chairman or secretary of the Charter Committee and
20 then became chairman of the Charter Committee after
21 Ruth Burton retired.

22 Q. Okay. Just so that the record is clear
23 for people who aren't familiar, the Charter is a
24 Committee of what organization?

1 A. Well, when we began to form societies,
2 those societies had to be chartered. And we were
3 the ones that sort of wrote out the rules and
4 regulations as to how you become a society.

5 A study group is the thing that starts
6 out first, and then they can apply to become a
7 society, eventually, if they so chose.

8 And our committee went to the group, if
9 they decided to become a society, we would go and
10 visit the group and see whether they really were
11 ready to become a society because sometimes they
12 weren't. And we would have to tell them to wait,
13 maybe you better do it a little longer, study a
14 little longer and so forth.

15 But then if they were ready, then we
16 would have a little sort of induction ceremony and
17 all the members of that study group would be there
18 and would become members then of the society.

19 Q. Could you briefly explain how the
20 induction, I'm sorry, the word you used, the
21 induction ceremony would be conducted?

22 A. Well, we would go out to wherever this
23 group lived that -- we went to California, we went
24 to Oklahoma, we went to all the different areas

1 where we had study groups.

2 And we wrote out -- Ruth Burton, and I
3 wrote out a little sort of service you might say,
4 and simply tell them some of the requirements of
5 societies and what is expected of them. And it
6 was -- we kept it very simple really. We didn't
7 want it to be ritualistic.

8 So then we would take each member, would
9 come up and sign the membership book, and that was
10 about all. Then we'd have a party afterward.

11 Q. Did the service include any readings
12 from The Urantia Book?

13 A. Yes, sometimes it did. We would read
14 certain sections.

15 Q. Then these societies would be affiliated
16 with what organization?

17 A. The Urantia Brotherhood.

18 Q. Explain what the "Urantia Brotherhood"
19 is, briefly?

20 A. Well, let's see if I can explain the
21 Urantia Brotherhood.

22 Well, it's the whole organization, I
23 guess you would say, which had -- what was the
24 function of -- sort of a social side, social

1 function of this organization was the Urantia
2 Brotherhood.

3 And the trustees were the ones who had
4 the function of the more legal matters and
5 whatnot. But the Brotherhood was the more social
6 function of the group.

7 Q. Did you have other roles with the
8 Brotherhood other than what you mentioned before on
9 the Charter Committee?

10 A. Well, I don't know. We did whatever we
11 were asked to do. I don't know really. Not
12 official roles, I don't think.

13 Q. Going back to the days in the Forum, was
14 there any type of reading from The Urantia Book
15 apart from the paper being read that day, such as a
16 prayer or benediction?

17 A. Later on I think we did have a
18 benediction that was taken from the book. And we
19 used to say that at the end of the meetings.

20 Q. Who would lead that particular
21 benediction?

22 A. I think whoever was the speaker that
23 day. Dr. Sadler, it might be Bill Sadler, it might
24 be Christy, whoever had read the papers.

1 Q. Now, in the Table of Contents, next to
2 each paper there's someone that's listed as an
3 author.

4 A. Yes.

5 Q. At the time that the papers were read to
6 you in the Forum, was any author of the papers
7 indicated to you?

8 A. Yes, it would be at the end of the paper,
9 I think. It was on the end of the paper, these
10 Divine Counselors or the Perfecter of Wisdom and so
11 forth.

12 Q. Now, for example, Divine Counselor is
13 listed as an author for paper number one. What
14 type of entity is a Divine Counselor?

15 A. Oh, dear, don't ask me these things. I
16 couldn't tell you really.

17 Q. Let me ask you is it an entity that is
18 human in nature?

19 A. No, I wouldn't say so. He's divine.

20 Q. Are other listed authors divine entities
21 as well?

22 A. Not necessarily. If they're divine, it
23 says divine. But they might be created entities or
24 they might be, what's the other word, created

1 entity or -- not created, but just be, just are,
2 you know.

3 But I think their title here tells you
4 almost what they are. Here's a Mighty Messenger,
5 so he must be a messenger. Universal Sensor, Chief
6 of Archangels, so their titles tell in a way what
7 they are, who they are.

8 Q. Were any human beings ever indicated to
9 you or -- I'm sorry -- were any human beings ever
10 identified to you as being an author of any Urantia
11 paper?

12 A. No, not at all.

13 Q. And for each Urantia paper that was read
14 to you, was an author identified?

15 A. Yes. Usually at the end of the paper it
16 was -- had the name of the author at the end of
17 each paper. You probably know this anyway.
18 Presented by Divine Counselor of Uversa.

19 Q. Referring to Page 61 on the Dietz Exhibit
20 No. 9.

21 Now does "presented by" connote to you
22 that it was an author?

23 A. No, I wouldn't any so. It's just he was
24 the one who presented it. Doesn't necessarily mean

1 he was the author I wouldn't think.

2 Q. So who would be the author of that paper?

3 A. Good question. I really don't know. He
4 might be as far as I know. I mean, how would I
5 know?

6 Q. In a situation where it said "presented
7 by" or words to that effect, was any other author
8 identified to the Forum?

9 A. No, no. These were all non-human beings,
10 superhuman.

11 Q. Are you familiar with the group called
12 the 70?

13 A. Yes.

14 Q. Explain what that group is?

15 A. Well, that was a group of 70 people who
16 were selected from the 100 or so of the Forum to
17 meet on Wednesday evenings and for further study
18 and more in-depth study of the book.

19 And supposedly from this group, there
20 would be teachers. The teachers and trainers would
21 come from this group.

22 Q. When did that group begin its operation,
23 approximately?

24 A. Oh, dear, I don't really remember.

1 Q. Do you know whether it was before or
2 after the publication of The Urantia Book?

3 A. Oh, it was before. I think it was before.

4 Q. Was it after the formation of the Urantia
5 Foundation?

6 A. I really don't know.

7 Q. Was it after all 196 Urantia papers had
8 been presented?

9 A. Dear, I couldn't tell you that either.

10 Q. Were you a member of that group?

11 A. Yes.

12 Q. Were you a member of the group from its
13 inception?

14 A. Yes.

15 Q. How were the people selected to join 70?

16 A. Dr. Sadler just selected them.

17 Q. Are you familiar with a group known as
18 the Contact Commission?

19 A. Well, we didn't know exactly who were the
20 Contact Commissioners. I didn't anyway. Other
21 than Dr. Sadler, we knew that, and Dr. Lena
22 Sadler. And we assumed that Christy was. But
23 really, I didn't know who the others were.

24 Q. What did you know about the Contact

1 Commission?

2 A. Well, they were the ones that would go
3 and listen to this person who -- through whom these
4 messages came.

5 Q. Is the person through whom the messages
6 came referred to in the book?

7 A. No, I don't think so.

8 Q. The Contact Commission, how did you know
9 that Dr. Sadler was a member?

10 A. Well, he was the only possible person.
11 He's the one who told us about -- brought these
12 papers and read them and so forth. And I think in
13 one of his books that he wrote, "The Mind at
14 Mischief," he mentioned there that he had this
15 phenomenon. And that he was -- had had this
16 experience with someone through whom messages came.

17 Q. Did Dr. Sadler indicate to the Forum any
18 communications other than the papers that he had
19 with the people who brought the papers or the
20 persons or entities?

21 A. Once in a great while he would tell us of
22 a communication that had come through.

23 Q. What types of communications did he
24 report?

1 A. Oh, goodness. Well, honestly, I can't
2 remember at this point. I can't remember really.

3 I do remember one communication that he
4 told us about, and that was that they were told --
5 this was later on I guess -- they were told that
6 they should take great care of the copyright of the
7 book. That was after the book, of course, was
8 published.

9 Q. Who was told?

10 A. Dr. Sadler and the Contact Commissioners,
11 I guess.

12 Q. And who were they told by?

13 A. Our unseen friends.

14 Q. Do you know what type of unseen friend?

15 A. No.

16 Q. When you say "unseen friends," does that
17 have any relationship to the authors that are
18 listed in The Urantia Book?

19 A. I suppose they could. Could.

20 Q. Well, the unseen friends, what does that
21 mean?

22 A. They're not human, not human friends.

23 Q. Non-human could include, for example, a
24 squirrel. Are they --

1 A. Oh, well, I mean, superhuman then, maybe
2 you should say superhuman.

3 Q. What relationship do those non-human
4 entities have to this planet? Are they resident on
5 the planet?

6 A. Some of them are. Some of them are.

7 Q. Are they visible to humans?

8 A. No, I don't think so unless you're a
9 special human being, but not to the ordinary,
10 average human being.

11 Q. Did there come a time when Dr. Sadler or
12 the Contact Commission invited Forum members to
13 submit questions for submission to the unseen
14 friends?

15 A. Yes. We were asked to write questions on
16 just any subject we wanted to.

17 Q. Did you participate in that process?

18 A. Yes. Bill and I did. We found it rather
19 hard to ask questions. I guess we weren't that
20 smart.

21 But we tried to ask some intelligent
22 questions, and they would get replies, apparently,
23 whatever our unseen friends wanted to -- felt was
24 important to answer would answer and give some

1 explanation of them.

2 Q. Do any of the questions that -- are you
3 aware of any questions that were asked either by
4 yourself or other Forum members or Contact
5 Commissioners that appear in the book?

6 A. No, I can't remember what we asked, and I
7 didn't know -- we didn't know what other people
8 asked.

9 Q. How did you submit the questions?

10 A. We wrote them down and just turned them
11 in to Christy or Dr. Sadler.

12 Q. Did you put your name on the question so
13 they would know who it was from?

14 A. I don't think so. You could do it if you
15 wanted to, and if you wanted to sign it, you could,
16 and if you didn't want to, you didn't have to.

17 Q. When the papers were read to the Forum,
18 were any of them identified by the reader as being
19 a response to a question?

20 A. I never heard anybody say so.

21 Q. Has any member of the Forum that you met
22 with regularly ever indicated to you in any way
23 that they were an author of any of the Urantia
24 papers?

1 A. No.

2 Q. Are you an author of any of the Urantia
3 papers?

4 A. Heavens, no. I'm not that bright.

5 Q. Did any of the Contact Commissioners ever
6 indicate to you that they were an author of any of
7 the Urantia papers?

8 A. No.

9 Q. Apart from asking questions, did the
10 Forum in any way control -- strike that.

11 Apart from asking questions, did the
12 Forum in any way have any effect on the Urantia
13 papers?

14 A. Not to my knowledge.

15 Q. Did any Contact Commissioner ever state
16 to you that the Urantia papers are in the form
17 exactly as they are -- exactly as they were
18 received from unseen friends, without a change in
19 content?

20 A. No, they never, never mentioned it.
21 We always just assumed that they were just as they
22 received them. But we never -- I guess we never
23 questioned them, and they never said.

24 Q. We talked about your religion in your

1 family when you were in your parents' household.
2 What is the relationship of The Urantia Book to
3 your religion today?

4 A. Well, I'm a Congregationalist now. When
5 I married Bill, I changed, went over into the
6 Congressional Church because I like their type of
7 service better, I don't care much for ritual.

8 And so we have continued to be members of
9 the Winnetka Congressional Church all these years.
10 And while the children were going to Sunday school
11 and so forth, we were quite good about going to
12 church.

13 And then when they got older and didn't
14 go, we found that we weren't going quite so much
15 either because we were attending Sunday meetings
16 down at the Forum, you see, all the time. And it
17 was a little much to go to church and then go to
18 the Forum, too.

19 But we have continued to support the
20 church in other ways and still feel like we are
21 still members of the Winnetka Congressional Church.
22 And that's the nice thing about the Forum, I think,
23 and the Urantia movement, is that you can belong to
24 your other church and keep up your other church

1 association as much as you like to. There's
2 nothing about the Urantia movement that keeps you
3 from enjoying other churches and so forth. You can
4 still be a good Urantian also.

5 Q. Let me just show you a publication that
6 was previously marked as C. Kendall Exhibit 15 and
7 ask you if you can identify that for us?

8 A. Oh, this is from the California group.
9 The Conjoint Reader. The School of Meanings and
10 Values, right. It's from the California group. I
11 haven't read this.

12 Q. Okay. In this edition it features an
13 interview with Mary Lou and Bill Hales.

14 A. Oh.

15 Q. Do you recall participating in such?

16 A. Yes. Polly Friedman came here and wanted
17 to interview us and -- yes.

18 Q. But you haven't seen the final version
19 that's here today, Exhibit 15?

20 A. Yes, I have. I read that. I have read
21 that.

22 Q. In response to the first question,
23 there's a statement that says "Then my religion
24 became the Forum papers."

1 A. Oh, yes. Then you want me to read from
2 there, "Then my religion?"

3 Q. Yes.

4 A. "Then my religion became the Forum
5 papers, the Urantia papers. That's been my
6 religion ever since. We're still members of the
7 Congregational Church of Winnetka and support it
8 financially, but we seldom go to it," and so forth.
9 Do you want me to read the rest?

10 Q. Is that an accurate statement of what
11 you've read so far?

12 A. Yes.

13 Q. So when I asked about your religion, you
14 mentioned the church first. What is the --

15 A. I thought that's what you meant by
16 religion.

17 Oh, yes, the Urantia papers are what we
18 believe. In other words, we're Jesusonians, if you
19 want to put a label on us, I think we're
20 Jesusonians.

21 And you might say, you're Christian.

22 Well, we are Christian, but we are
23 Jesusonians, which is more to the point.

24 Q. Well, have you heard a phrase referring

1 to "the religion of Jesus?"

2 A. Uh-huh.

3 Q. Explain what that means?

4 A. Well, it means rather than having a
5 religion about Jesus, which is what the Bible has
6 done, that is, in the Bible it's a religion about
7 Jesus, really written by other people, other men,
8 other -- whoever wrote the Bible.

9 And the religion of Jesus, I think, to
10 me, is much more indicative of what he taught and
11 what he really believed and what really is
12 important.

13 We'd rather believe the religion of Jesus
14 rather than the religion about Jesus written by
15 somebody else.

16 Q. Is that one of the distinguishing factors
17 between The Urantia Book and the Bible, and when we
18 say "the Bible" referring, to the New Testament?

19 A. Uh-huh. Yeah.

20 Q. Do you believe there's a difference in
21 the nature of the authorship between those two --

22 A. Oh, absolutely.

23 Q. -- books?

24 A. Absolutely.

1 Q. Explain the difference that you
2 understand?

3 A. Well, as I understand it, the Bible was
4 written by human beings, and everything in the
5 Bible, they have written themselves or they have
6 some statements from the apostles, from some of the
7 apostles that apparently came down to them through
8 word of mouth, or I don't know how because they
9 weren't supposed to write down anything. As I
10 understood it, when they were with Jesus, they
11 weren't supposed to write anything down. He never
12 wrote anything down except in the sand.

13 And so I just don't believe too much in
14 the Bible. Other than it is -- was a very fine ---
15 it was a wonderful way to keep alive the Christian
16 religion at that particular period of time.

17 And, however, the Urantian teachings, the
18 Urantia papers, are definitely superhuman and given
19 to us by superhumans, we believe.

20 And it's like you have the definite word
21 from the source in the Urantia papers; whereas, in
22 the Bible, it was interpreted by different people.
23 And oftentimes, the Jewish people who were involved
24 would -- or the officialdom would change things

1 around to go the way they wanted them to go and to
2 put a picture on it that they wanted to present.

3 It was not always, shall we say, true
4 according to facts. They just -- but it was a way,
5 a good way for all these years. It has been a
6 wonderful book and to many people has been very
7 helpful in carrying along what some of the truths
8 that are in it, that were given by Jesus to the
9 apostles.

10 Q. Regarding the New Testament, the Bible,
11 do you understand that to be an epochal revelation?

12 A. The Bible?

13 Q. The Bible. The text of the Bible.

14 A. No, I don't think so.

15 Q. What about the personification of Jesus
16 Christ, was that an epochal revelation?

17 A. In the Bible?

18 Q. No, on the plant Earth.

19 A. Oh, on the plant. I don't -- well, I
20 don't quite understand "epochal."

21 Q. Well --

22 A. What do you mean?

23 Q. Have you not heard that phrase?

24 A. Oh, yes. We are the epochal fellowship,

1 Epic, isn't an epic a period of time? An epic?

2 Q. Okay. If you're not familiar with that
3 term.

4 Does the authorship of The Urantia Book,
5 as it differs from the authorship of the New
6 Testament, place it on a different plane than the
7 New Testament?

8 A. Oh, yes.

9 Q. Explain which one would be on a higher
10 plane, in your belief?

11 A. Oh, I think the Urantia papers would be
12 much higher because they're -- well, it's like
13 getting the word from the source, you know.
14 They're given by people or by super people who know
15 about what they're saying, I mean, they know
16 whereof they speak.

17 Q. You're familiar with the Plaintiff in
18 this case, Urantia Foundation?

19 A. Yes.

20 Q. Have you ever had any official capacity
21 directly with the Urantia Foundation?

22 A. No.

23 Q. Did you ever assign any rights that you
24 might have, such as a copyright, to the Urantia

1 Foundation?

2 A. No, I don't have any copyright.

3 Q. Did they ever ask for you to sign any
4 copyright in The Urantia Book to the Urantia
5 Foundation?

6 A. No.

7 Q. Do you know whether any other Forum
8 member has assigned any rights to the Urantia
9 Foundation?

10 A. I don't know of any.

11 Q. Do you know of any Forum member that
12 claims to own any copyright interest in The Urantia
13 Book or the Urantia papers?

14 A. I don't know that anyone owns it. I
15 mean --

16 Q. The Forum members?

17 A. Forum members, oh, no.

18 Q. When the papers were read to the Forum,
19 do you recall what the form from which they were
20 read from, was it from a handwritten note,
21 typewriter, typeset, that type of thing?

22 A. It was a typewritten paper.

23 Q. Were they distributed? Was a copy of it
24 distributed at the Forum meeting?

1 papers were kept?

2 A. No. We didn't know where they were kept
3 other than that they were in the Sadlers'
4 apartment, we assumed.

5 Q. And where was that apartment?

6 A. On Diversey, 533 Diversey Boulevard,
7 Chicago.

8 Q. And where were the Forum meetings that
9 you attended held?

10 A. They were on the second floor of the 533
11 building where Dr. Sadler and family lived. They
12 lived on the third floor, and the second floor was
13 used for a meeting room.

14 Q. When you went to look at the papers,
15 where did you sit or stand when you were looking at
16 the papers?

17 A. On the second floor. Went up to the
18 second floor, and Christy would bring me the paper
19 that I was supposed to read.

20 Q. So this is all happening in the same
21 building, is that right?

22 A. Uh-huh.

23 Q. Prior to the time the book was published,
24 were you allowed to take any of the papers off of

1 the premises at 533 Diversey?

2 A. No, we weren't.

3 Q. When you did any sort of reading or study
4 of the papers at any time, either in the Forum
5 meetings or at any other time, were there occasions
6 in which you might make notes of your thoughts or
7 your analyses?

8 A. I don't think so. For a time, I thought
9 we were not supposed to make notes or to take any
10 notes with us, you know. Everything had to be read
11 there in that building. And you could not take it
12 off. And I don't think you were supposed to make
13 notes.

14 Later on, when Dr. Sadler gave a -- sort
15 of lectures about the papers, we had notebooks that
16 we could write, take notes from, what he was
17 lecturing on. But that was quite some time later
18 as I remember.

19 Q. Was that before or after the book was
20 published?

21 A. I think it must have been after.

22 Q. When you participated in the group called
23 the 70, did you have any notes or notebooks in
24 connection with your studies then?

1 A. I don't think so. I honestly don't
2 remember right -- I rather don't think so.

3 Q. Did you at any time prior to the date
4 that the book was published, take any of the texts
5 of the papers or any notes about the papers off the
6 premises at 533 Diversey?

7 A. No, I don't believe so.

8 Q. You attended these Forum meetings I
9 believe you said, starting in what year?

10 A. 1932, the fall.

11 Q. And did there come a time when you
12 stopped attending Forum meetings, or there stopped
13 being Forum meetings, that this process changed or
14 stopped?

15 A. No. We were absent, I think, maybe for a
16 few -- maybe a few months because of our children.
17 We had two children at home, and I thought maybe
18 for that period -- some period of time we were --
19 we didn't attend meetings because I thought we
20 should be at home with the children.

21 Q. Did the Forum meetings continue after the
22 book itself was published?

23 A. Oh, yes. Uh-huh.

24 Q. What happened at the Forum meetings after

1 you first began, I want to ask you to focus on the
2 time from when you started until the book was
3 published. Did I correctly understand you to say
4 that at the time you started, you read the first 32
5 papers?

6 A. Before I could become a member, really.

7 Q. And then your Forum meetings that you
8 attended picked up from there, is that accurate?

9 A. Uh-huh.

10 Q. With that context, did there come a time
11 when the Forum started re-reading the papers,
12 starting over at the beginning and going on
13 through?

14 A. Oh, yes.

15 Q. Do you know did that happen more than
16 once or once or what?

17 A. Oh, I think so. I think we went through
18 the book two or three times, at least.

19 Q. When you say you "went through the book,"
20 was this where you were going through the book or
21 you were going through the papers?

22 A. Well, the papers, the papers, called the
23 book.

24 Q. Do you know whether, say, the second time

1 that you were aware of going back through from the
2 beginning, whether the papers that you read the
3 second time through were revised or changed or
4 expanded or modified by the unseen friends or
5 anybody else --

6 MR. LEWIS: I will object as leading.

7 BY MR. OWENS:

8 Q. -- through the course of this?

9 Sorry. Go head.

10 MR. LEWIS: I was going to state that it's a
11 leading question.

12 MR. OWENS: It's your witness, but I'll try to
13 restate the question just to be fair.

14 BY MR. OWENS:

15 Q. Do you know whether the second time that
16 you were aware of going through the papers that you
17 read, were they any differences than the first time
18 through?

19 A. No, they were the same as far as I knew.

20 Q. As far as you knew they were the same?

21 A. Uh-huh. That subject of changing and
22 making changes in the papers and so forth came up
23 much later on, you know, fairly recently in a way,
24 which always surprised me because I didn't know

1 that there was anything to change. I thought
2 everything was the way it was supposed to be.

3 Q. When you started in the early 1930s, were
4 you given any information about when this process
5 of receiving the papers and reading the papers had
6 begun?

7 A. No. I don't. I don't remember any dates
8 so to speak. I mean, I really don't remember any
9 dates. But Bill's mother and father belonged to
10 the group in around 1926 or so. And I presume
11 that's when they must have had the papers then
12 coming. Maybe even before that.

13 Q. Did you know the method or the mechanics,
14 physically, for how the typewritten pages that you
15 would see read at these meetings got into that
16 form, from wherever they came from?

17 A. No, I don't know.

18 Q. Did Dr. Sadler ever indicate to you
19 whether he encouraged or discouraged inquiry into
20 those sorts of questions of method?

21 A. No. He never said anything to me
22 particularly.

23 I'm sure he probably did not encourage
24 questions on that subject, I would think, from

1 other people.

2 Of course people were curious about how
3 they came and so forth. But we were never told, as
4 far as I knew, we were never told how they came
5 other than there was a subject, and they got the
6 papers that way.

7 MR. OWENS: I don't have any other questions,
8 Mrs. Hales. Thank you.

9 MR. LEWIS: I don't either.

10 You have an opportunity, after the court
11 reporter types up the transcript, to review it and
12 make any corrections to words that might have been
13 misunderstood or other corrections that you may
14 feel appropriate.

15 Would you like to avail yourself of that
16 opportunity?

17 THE WITNESS: Yes.

18 MR. LEWIS: We'll arrange to have a transcript
19 sent to you for signature.

20 THE WITNESS: All right. Fine. Thank you.

21 MR. OWENS: I think maybe we should mention,
22 there are rules of the Court that apply to all of
23 us and to this procedure. And they allow 30 days
24 from whenever the transcript is gotten to you for

1 you to read it and as Mr. Lewis described to you,
2 to note any corrections that you think.

3 They also give you a place at the end to
4 sign it and a place for a notary a public.

5 And I think we'll agree here, as we have
6 before, that you can sign it before any notary
7 public.

8 You don't have to go back to this court
9 reporter or anybody in particular. A notary at the
10 bank or whatever.

11 But they do put that time on it. So we
12 just wanted you to be aware of that.

13 THE WITNESS: A month's time?

14 MR. OWENS: Yes, ma'am.

15 MR. LEWIS: That concludes the deposition.

16

17 AND FURTHER DEPONENT SAITH NAUGHT

18

*

*

*

19

20

21

22

23

24

1 STATE OF ILLINOIS)
2 COUNTY OF COOK)

3 I, LYDIA MSZAL, a notary public within
4 and for the County of Cook and State of Illinois,
5 do hereby certify that heretofore, to-wit, on the
6 20th day of October, 1994, personally appeared
7 before me MARY LOU HALES, witness in a certain
8 cause now pending and undetermined in the U.S.
9 District Court, District of Arizona,
10 wherein, URANTIA FOUNDATION is the plaintiff, and
11 KRISTEN MAAHERRA is the defendant.

12 I further certify that the witness was by
13 me first duly sworn to testify the truth, the whole
14 truth and nothing but the truth in the cause
15 aforesaid; that the testimony then given by the
16 said witness was reported stenographically by me in
17 the presence of said witness and afterwards reduced
18 to writing, and the foregoing is a true and
19 complete transcript of the testimony so given by
20 the said witness as aforesaid.

21 The signature of the witness to the
22 foregoing deposition was not waived.

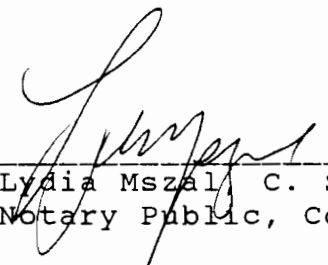
23
24

1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24

I further certify that the taking of this deposition was pursuant to notice, and that there were present at the taking of said deposition the appearances as heretofore noted.

I further certify that I am not counsel for nor in any way related to any of the parties to this suit, nor am I in any way interested in the outcome thereof.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed my notarial seal this 7th day of November 1994.



Lydia Mszal, C. S. R.
Notary Public, Cook County

No. 084-002893

