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In fond memory of Marian Rowley who took pictures and kept records during the Forum years.

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Distance view of picnic activity
in Hales' back yard

May, 1947

Phil Copenhaver, Jr.

**September, 1947, Pine
Lodge Retreat, Beverly
Shores Indiana**

Pine Lodge, Beverly Shores,
Indiana

Herman Schell, Ruth and Bob
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Kulieke in the chow line

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**June 19, 1948 Forum Picnic
at the Hales' Oak Park
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Edith Cook, Elizabeth James,
Leone Sadler, Helen Thurman
and Eva Vincent

Bill Sadler, Jr., Alvin Kulieke,
Lucille Kulieke, Gerry and
Warren Kulieke, Charlie Rawson
and Kenton Stephens

Edith Cook and Lois Lockwood
in front of the Hales' home

Edith Cook

Art Born, Lee Miller Jones and
Charlie Rawson

Mr. & Mrs. Hales and Dr. Sadler

Jane Allen, Ruth Renn and
Marjorie Bates in the garden at
the Hales' Home

Wilfred Kellogg, Mrs. Case,
Anna Kellogg, Maizie Jones,
Mrs. Chilton, Mr. Chilton and
Katherine Douglas

**September 18, 1948, Forum
Retreat at Beverly Shores,
Indiana**

Bob Burton, Fred Leverenz,
Harry Rowley, Al Dyon and
Wilfred Kellogg

Laura Walters, Earl Steinbeck,
Nellie Dale, Blanche Cross, Lois
Lockwood, Eva Vincent, Bill
Hales and Marian Rowley

**June 18, 1949 Forum
Meeting at the Hales' Oak
Park Home**

Winifred Bucklin Manjarrez, Al
Leverenz and Ticky Jones

Charlie Rawson, Barney Burton,
Helen Thurman, Harry Rowley,
Ben Copenhaver, Fred Bowman,
Tom Wideroe, Harry Beatty,
Knox Kreutzer and Katherine
Adler

Group photo in Hales' home

**September 10, 1949 Forum
Picnic, Beverly Shores,
Indiana**

Leone and Patricia Sadler

Mr & Mrs Vogel, Florence and
Barney Burton

Bill Sadler, Jr., Bill Sadler III,

and Wesley James

Dr. Sadler at Beverly Shores
picnic

Dr. Anne Whitchurch, Anna and
Wilfred Kellogg, Dr. and Mrs.
Case

Bill and Leone Sadler, Edith
Cook and Elizabeth James

**June 10, 1950 Forum Picnic
at the Hales' Home**

Marian Rowley, Helen Thurman,
Minie Green and Lily Uhlemann

Marjorie Bates, Ruth Burton,
Jane Allen and Ann Copenhaver

Hugh Tulane, Mrs. Leverenz and
Bill Hales

Bill Sadler, Jr., Inez Burch, Patti
Clegg, Dave Adler, Marian
Rowley and Edith Cook

**June 21, 1958 Urantia
Picnic, Beverly Shores,
Indiana**

Warran Kulieke at Beverly
Shores picnic

**June 27, 1959 Beverly
Shores Urantia Picnic**

Anna Kellogg, Dr. Sadler and
Chuck Sadler

Edmond Kulieke, Jr., Mr & Mrs
Edmond Kulieke

Geraldine and Warren Kulieke

**June 25, 1960 Beverly
Shores Urantia Picnic**

Leone Sadler and Helen
Thurman

Edith Cook, Irene and Meredith
Sprunger

Mary Peterson and Patricia
Sadler

Meredith Sprunger, Alice
Schlundt and Irene Sprunger

Group singing at the Urantia
picnic

Warren Kulieke leading the
singing

Misc 1960

Leone Sadler

O'Hare Airport; Jacques Weiss,
Dr. Sadler and Edith Cook

O'Hare Airport; Chuck Sadler,
Jacques Weiss and Dr. Sadler

June 22, 1963 Urantia Picnic

Bill Hales and Helen
Copenhaver

Edmond Kulieke, Sr.

Mrs. Edmond Kulieke, Sr.

Virginia Bowman and Lucille
Kulieke

July 29, 1964 Visit with the Grimsleys

Nancy Grimsley and Edith Cook

Marian Rowley and Vern
Grimsley

**August 1965 Summer
Seminar at 533 Diversey
Parkway, Chicago**

Summer Seminar at 533

Ernie & Louise Pritchard and
Tom Kendall; Saturday night
party, 3rd floor at 533

Marion Barby, Carolyn Kendall
and Frank Sgaraglino

Lucille Kulieke, Martin Myers
and Alvin Kulieke

To find out more about the
Forum and the role it played in
the development of The Urantia
Book, see:

How The Urantia Book Came into
Existence by Bill Sadler

A History of The Urantia Movement
by Dr William S. Sadler



Dr. Lena Sadler and Anna Kellogg
circa 1928



Wilfred and Anna Kellogg
June, 1942



Forum Picnic at Hales', Oak Park, June 6, 1942
Bill Sadler and Bill Hales; Minnie Green left facing, Marea Vlasto next facing,



Forum Picnic at Hales', Oak Park, June 6, 1942
Bill Sadler, Margaret Stevens, Marian Rowley
Julia Early, Martin Early



Forum Picnic at Hales', Oak Park, June 6, 1942
Marian Rowley, Martha Sherman, Alvin Kulieke, Lucille Olson



Margaret Stevens, Julia Early
June 6, 1942



Ruth Kellogg, circa 1943



G. W. Hales
July 1, 1944



Picnic at the Hales', July 1, 1944

Standing 1-r: Lee Miller Jones, Bill Sadler, Jr.; Seated 1-r: Lucille Kulieke, Helen Thurman,
Leone Sadler, Tom Wideroe, Emma Christensen



Marian Rowley and Dr. Sadler
July 1, 1944



Forum Picnic, June 21, 1947

Anne Rawson, Charlie Rawson, Phil Copenhaver, Jr., Marea Vlasto, Mrs. Yarnell, Everett Farwell,
Edna Farwell, Catherine Jones, Art Born, Catherine Douglas, seated

How The Urantia Book Came into Existence

William S. Sadler, Jr.

February 18, 1962

The following is transcribed from a tape recording made in the home of Berkeley Elliott on February 18, 1962. On this occasion, William S. Sadler, Jr., one of the "contact commissioners," was talking with the study group there assembled. What follows are comments which he made on this occasion concerning the origin of The Urantia Book.

"Many years ago my parents, who were physicians, had brought to their attention this individual who had some rather strange things happening to him. In one of the books my father wrote, "The Mind at Mischief", he made mention of this case in the last part of the book -- in the Appendix which was published in the 1920's. My father had spook-hunting as a hobby. He was an exposé of mediums. He had two running mates -- the head of the psychology department at Northwestern University and Howard Thurston, a professional magician. Take a physician, a psychologist and a magician, and God help the medium. There is a book now out of print which my father wrote called "The Truth About Spiritualism" in which he puts so-called spiritualists as falling into one of two categories. There are practicing frauds -- deliberately working for gain or for glory -- and there are people who are self-deceived. I think in that book he says "with one possible exception."

"These two physicians [Dr. and Mrs. Sadler] became interested in this case. This man would go to sleep and he'd talk and what came out was intriguing and different. He was never interested in the lost watch or the stock market or in talking with your Uncle George who had passed on -- never anything practical. This was different; distinctly offbeat. About this time a Sunday evening meeting came to be organized at our house. It came about when Pop was giving a commencement address at Ames. I was in High School at the time and he wrote me a letter saying that we were not church people but that Sunday should be productive as well as a day of rest. He asked what I would say if they invited in some friends and they had a discussion group -- kind of a forum -- and talked about health and history and politics, etc. That group came into existence in, I think, 1922. This group became interested in spiritualism because Pop was writing on that subject at the time.

"My dad was mischievous -- there was a mind-reading show -- vaudeville at McVickers. Pop attended twice. He took a pair of wire

cutters and clipped the wires that hooked the guy in the audience with the gal on the stage. At which point she fainted and they asked if there was a doctor in the audience, and Pop had the gall to go back and take care of her.

"At about this time I was in Nicaragua so some of what I tell you is hearsay. 1924 to 1928 will be hearsay, but subsequent to 1928 I'll give you direct information. The question came up whether all such phenomena is fraudulent. My dad was an honest guy so he said there was one such case that was a puzzle. So they asked him to tell them about it. So the forum became intrigued with the shorthand notes that had been taken of things this man talked about.

"One evening when they were talking to this chap, a kind of an argument came up. They were talking with someone who claimed to be a "Mighty Messenger." They asked if he could prove he was a Mighty Messenger. "No," he said, "but you can't prove I'm not either. If you knew what I know, you wouldn't ask these half-baked questions. You would prepare some of the most deep, searching and far-reaching questions you could possibly imagine."

"My father was half English and half Irish and he got kind of mad -- they were checking out this phenomena and here they were being challenged. Pop looked at the others in the group and said, "Lets take him up on it."

"So the next Sunday when the Forum met the whole group came in on the deal. I was told that approximately five thousand questions were given. Some were silly -- how old is God, who created him, and so forth. What happened was this -- one day the questions were gone and where the questions were kept was the first of the Urantia Papers and was entitled, "The Universal Father."

"I'll tell you how I think this paper was written. And my theory is not one-hundred percent correct. But its the best I can find. Visualize several places in space -- points A, B, C and D. I think the papers were dictated or conceived at point A and had we been there when any of these papers were written we would have seen nothing. A Divine Counselor is presenting his concepts in the language of Uversa. A translator is there who translates it into the language of Salvington. There is another translator there who translates from the language of Salvington to the language of Satania and another translator who translates from Satania into English. You cannot translate from Uversa into English because the languages are too far apart.

"I suspect that 99% of the original concept was lost in translation -- English is too primitive a language. Take Bantu where they have one, two and then "many" -- the end of their numbers -- and you want to translate into large number systems, you simply can't do it. See the

problem?

"Point A was linked by some sort of communication circuit to point B. At point B there would be something to see, but it would be rather dull. It would be a man asleep -- doing nothing. Remember the resurrection and the way the stone was moved by the Midwayers? At point C you would see a pencil moving over paper with no visible means of motion. That's where the physical writing took place. Now point D would be where we found the papers. This individual was never seen to write one of these papers -- and don't think we weren't wearing gumshoes looking. If he wrote them he was more clever than us -- he was never observed to write them.

"We tried everything we could think of to see how this was being done, but were baffled. The text was entirely written in pencil -- all in the handwriting of this individual who remarked that if they ever wanted to draw on his bank account he'd be a dead duck because the bank would pay on their signature.

"Who was this guy? I took an oath not to divulge who he was. That was required of all who know his identity and it was required by the commissioner who sponsored the last of the papers. We think we know why it was required. He would have asked us to maintain secrecy. One of the reasons this chap was picked is that he has a passion for anonymity -- a very stable man -- the exact opposite of what you think someone associated with this would be like. His head was solidly on his shoulders and his feet solidly on the ground -- someone who would be ashamed to be mixed up with something spooky. He doesn't want to be known.

"These papers were read to the forum. At the end of each paper was a note suggesting the next title on which questions should be asked. This is how they led us through the first time. They were read to the forum and they generated more questions and over a period of years this book accumulated. And eventually when we had money we published.

"In 1950 we completed the preparation of our plates. As money came in we forecast inflation, so we took the money we had and spent it in getting Donnelley to prepare the plates. If you went to Chicago, you'd see that the Urantia Foundation was established in 1950 by the anonymous donation of the plates of The Urantia Book. We got nickel coated plates. If you write to Donnelley, they'll tell you they negotiated with Kellogg. The Urantia Foundation owns the copyright. There are five trustees. In about 1954 these five trustees selected thirty-six people who organized the Urantia Brotherhood. The book was published in October of 1955 and has been spreading ever since.

"I was there most of the time. I'm a management man, not the kind of

man you would expect to see mixed up in something like this -- and I was very suspicious of all this. I asked myself, "Who is making what out of this? Where's the gold Cadillac in all this?" I checked it out and found that it was going to *cost* money. I realized there was no commercial end. And, as the book cleared up some personal quarrels I had with religion, I felt it was pretty good merchandise. So I elected to spend my spare time selling this. I don't get paid, but I get a lot of satisfaction. This is a first hand story except for the years from 1924 to 1928. And this is the first time this has ever been recorded."

A History of The Urantia Movement

Editor's note: The following document was submitted to the court by Urantia Foundation in the Maaherra case and was represented as having been written by Dr. Sadler.

The version reproduced below was digitized from a xerox copy of what is believed to be a typewritten original. The assumption of originality is based on the nature of hand-written notes which appear in the margins. There is no signature nor is there any indication anywhere on them that Dr. Sadler is indeed the author. Larry Mullins refers to this history as "History 2." Larry Mullins comments, "Although Urantia Foundation and others continue to refer to this document as "written by Dr. Sadler," it almost certainly was not. After careful examination, the 30 page original appears to be the long lost, unfinished "history" of Emma Louise Christensen. This history was known to exist, but could not be found after her death in 1982. "Christy," as she was known, apparently used "History 1" as a template, inserted a few pages authored by Dr. Sadler but never published, and added her own observations. The "History 2" document, as submitted to the Court, had no cover page, but began with what was "page 2" of "History 1."

"The pages were obviously renumbered, in some cases having two conflicting page numbers. "History 2" is a hybrid that is obviously the product of an inexperienced writer and editor. Dr. Sadler was an accomplished author. There are awkward shifts from second to third person, and long passages refer to Dr. Sadler in the third person. In one place (page 7 of the original) the writer inserted a comment, "The doctor continues his narrative:" -- Dr. Sadler never wrote about himself in this manner. The information in "History 2" is helpful, but must be regarded with some caution and weighed against other information." [End of comment by Larry Mullins.]

There are two additional versions of the history below which are dated 1960 and attributed to Marian Rowley. Marian's histories are apparently condensations of the more extensive history reproduced below and contain her comments in which she notes the items which she intends to omit from the original in her "official history". The condensation by Marian Rowley is the history which Larry Mullins refers to as "History 1." While Mullins holds that "History 2" was an expanded version of "History 1," Marian Rowley's notes indicate that "History 1" was actually a condensation of "History 2." In spite of the fact that Marian indicates her source document was an edited version of "Dr.'s" history, the critique of the authorship of "History 2" presented by Larry Mullins leads to other conclusions. To study this matter in greater detail, see:

- [Marian Rowley's draft of a history; June 1960](#)
 - [\[See PDF reproduction of original\]](#) **PDF**
- [Marian Rowley's completed history, June 1960](#) (This corresponds to Larry Mullins' "History 1")
 - [\[See PDF reproduction of original\]](#) **PDF** (Compare Marian's completed history with her draft noted above as well as with the history attributed to Dr. Sadler from the same time period which is reproduced below.)

- [\[See Marian's comparison of the two histories\]](#) PDF
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Contact Activities Preceding The Urantia Papers

It would seem that, during these early years, our unseen friends were engaged in a thoroughgoing testing of the contact personality, rehearsing the technique of communication, selecting the Contact Commissioners -- in fact, in a general way -- setting the stage for the subsequent initiation of the presentation of the "Urantia Papers."

During these early years we were introduced to many new and, to us, somewhat strange concepts of the universe of universes and as concerned man and his life on earth.

Among these numerous new ideas of cosmology and philosophy, the following may be mentioned:

- 1. New concept of a far-flung cosmos
- 2. Millions of other inhabited planets

- 3. Introduction to scores of different and varied echelons of celestial personalities.
- 4. Confirmation of evolutionary origin of humankind -- even of an evolutionary cosmos.
- 5. Intimation of multiple Creator Deities.
- 6. Tentative testing of our theologic concepts. Patient determination of how far we might possibly go in the direction of modifying our theologic beliefs and philosophical opinions.
- 7. Without realizing it, over a period of twenty years, our fundamental religious views and attitudes had been considerably changed.
- 8. We had been familiarized with such terms as "The First Source and Center", "Havona", "superuniverses", and the "Supreme Being" -- but we had but meager ideas as to the real meaning of these names.
- 9. We also heard such words as "Master Spirits", "outer space", and "Power Directors". But, again, we understood little as to their meaning. We also learned about numerous orders of angels.
- 10. We heard about "Thought Adjusters", but our concept of the meaning of the term was vague and indefinite.
- 11. We had acquired a fuzzy concept of the morontia level of existence -- but we never heard the word "morontia" used until the Papers started.
- 12. The midwayers were very real to us -- we frequently talked with them during our varied "contacts." We quite fully understood that the secondary midwayers supervised the contacts.
- 13. We heard some things about the Lucifer rebellion, but got little information about Adam and Eve.
- 14. We gained the impression that there were special reasons for Jesus' bestowal on Urantia, but we had little or no idea as to the nature of these unrevealed reasons.
- 15. We listened to occasional references to Jesus' life and teachings -- but they were very cautious about the introduction of any new concepts regarding Michael's Urantia bestowal. Of all the Urantia Revelation the Jesus Papers were the biggest surprise.
- 16. While we did not hear the term "Corps of The Finality", we did pick up a hazy idea that Paradise might be the destination of surviving mortals.

Our superhuman friends thus spent upward of two decades in extending our cosmic horizons, enlarging our theologic concepts, and expanding our over-all philosophy.

We never realized how much our religious thinking had been expanded until the Papers began to arrive. As the Revelation progressed we came more fully to appreciate how we had been prepared for the vast alteration of our religious beliefs by these preliminary contacts extending over a period of twenty years of pre-education.

Our apprenticeship training for subsequent service in association with the presentation of the Urantia Papers was facilitated by the fact that, except for contacts with the midwayers, no two contacts were alike. Seldom did we meet the visiting personalities more than once. Every contact was entirely different from any and all that had gone before. And all of this experience was an extensive and liberal preparatory educational training in the expansion of our cosmology, theology and philosophy -- not to mention our introduction to new ideas and concepts concerning a vast array of more mundane objects.

The limited discussion of Jesus' life and teachings during these pre-revelatory contacts might be explained by the fact that the midwayers were a bit dubious as to how much authority they had in such matters -- as shown later on when a whole year was consumed in the clarification of their right to retell the story of the Michael bestowal.

Those of us who early attended upon these nocturnal vigils never suspected that we were in contact with anything supernatural.

During these early years, all of our observations and investigations utterly failed to reveal the technique of reducing messages to writing.

How The Urantia Papers Started

After about twenty years of contact experience, an alleged student visitor, speaking through this sleeping subject during one of these nocturnal vigils, in answer to one of our questions, said: "If you only knew what you are in contact with you would not ask such trivial questions. You would rather ask such questions as might elicit answers of supreme value to the human race."

This was something of a shock, as well as a mild rebuke, and caused all of us to look upon this unique experience in a new and different way. Later on that night, one of our number said: "Now they have asked for it -- let us give them questions that no human being can answer."

Now it is best to let matters rest here while we shift this narrative to a new and different setting.

How The Forum Started

Dr. William S. Sadler, a member of this early group of observers and investigators, tells the following story regarding the origin of that group of interested individuals which later on became known as the "Forum." He says: "On my way to the University of Kansas to deliver some lectures on Gestalt psychology, I wrote a letter to my son saying that I thought doctors should try to maintain some contact with their old patients. I suggested that he talk with his mother about the feasibility of inviting some of our old friends to meet with us on Sunday afternoons for an hour or two of informal discussion and social exchange.

When I returned to Chicago one Sunday morning I found that my wife had invited a group of our old patients to meet at our house that afternoon at three o'clock. It was the plan to conduct these Sunday afternoon gatherings somewhat as follows: First have a talk on some health topic -- such as the treatment of common colds, the cause and cure of worry, and then, after a cup of tea, engage in informal discussions -- asking and answering questions.

As time passed, this group became a cosmopolitan gathering consisting of professional men and women -- doctors, lawyers, dentists, ministers, teachers -- together with individuals from all walks of life. Farmers, housewives, secretaries, office workers, and common laborers.

Introduction Of The Forum To the "Contacts"

[Editor's note: At this point in the original, a handwritten note appears in the margin, "The doctor

continues his narrative:" In addition, in the original, handwritten quotation marks have been added to the beginning of each paragraph from this point through the end of the next section titled, "The Forum Begins to Ask Questions."]

Presently, I was asked to give a series of talks on "Mental Hygiene," or "Psychic Phenomena." At the beginning of my first talk, I said: "With only one or two exceptions, all of the psychic phenomena which I have investigated have turned out to be either conscious or unconscious frauds. Some were deliberate frauds -- others were those peculiar cases in which the performer was a victim of the deceptions of his own subconscious mind."

I had no more than said this when one of the group spoke up, saying, "Doctor, if you have contacted something which you have been unable to solve -- it would be interesting -- tell us more about it."

I asked Dr. Lena to get some notes she had taken at a recent "contact" and read them to the group. It should be understood that up to this time there was no secrecy connected with this case. The Urantia Papers had not begun to appear.

It was at about this time that this group meeting at our house on Sunday afternoons began to be called the "Forum."

The group manifested such a great interest in this case that I never did get around to giving any of the health talks such as had been planned.

It was while these informal discussions were going on from week to week that the challenge came to us suggesting that if we would ask more serious questions we might get information of value to all mankind.

The Forum Begins To Ask Questions

We told the Forum all about this and invited them to join us in the preparation of question. We decided to start out with questions pertaining to the origin of the cosmos, Deity, creation, and such other subjects as were far beyond the present-day knowledge of all humankind.

The following Sunday several hundred questions were brought in. We sorted out these questions, discarding duplicates, and in a general way, classifying them. Shortly thereafter, the first Urantia Paper appeared in answer to these questions. From first to last, when the Papers appeared, the questions disappeared.

This was the procedure followed throughout the many years of the reception of the Urantia Papers. No questions -- no Papers.

The Forum Becomes a Closed Group

About this time, the Forum, as it were, was taken away from us. We were instructed to form a "closed group" -- requiring each member to sign a pledge of secrecy and to discuss the Papers and all matters pertaining thereto with only those persons who were members of the Forum.

Membership tickets were issued and the Charter membership numbered Thirty. The date of this organization was September, 1925. Seventeen of these Charter Members are still living.

The individuals charged with the responsibility of gathering up the questions and comparing the typewritten text with the original handwritten manuscript, came to be known as the "Contact Commissioners." From that date forward only these Contact Commissioners attended "contacts" and received written communications through the contact personality.

From time to time new members were received into the Forum, after being interviewed by the officers and after signing the same pledge that was signed by the original Charter Members. This pledge read: "We acknowledge our pledge of secrecy, renewing our promise not to discuss the Urantia Revelations or their subject matter with any one save active Forum members, and to take no notes of such matter as is read or discussed at the public sessions, or make copies or notes of what we personally read."

The last meeting of the Forum as a genetic assembly was held on May 31st, 1942. During the 17 years of official existence the Forum attained a total membership of 486.

[Editor's note: A handwritten note appears in the margin of the original, "From this date in 1942 the Forum continued as a study group to the time of the organization of the First Urantia Society."]

During the period of the reception of the Urantia Papers, upward of 300 different persons participated in asking these genetic questions. With but few exceptions, all of the Urantia Papers were given in response to such questions.

The First Urantia Papers

The first group of Papers numbered 57. We then received a communication suggesting that since we could now ask many and much more intelligent questions, the supervising agencies and personalities responsible for transmitting the 57 Papers would engage to enlarge the revelation and to expand the Papers in accordance with our new questions.

This was the plan: We would read a Paper on a Sunday afternoon and the following Sunday the new questions would be presented. Again, these would be sorted, classified, etc. This program covered several years and ultimately resulted in the presentation of the 196 Papers as now found in the Urantia Book.

Receiving The Completed Papers

In a way, there was a third presentation. After receiving these 196 Papers, we were told that the "Revelatory Commission" would be pleased to have us go over the Papers once more and ask questions concerning the "Clarification of Concepts" and the "Removal of Ambiguities." This program again covered several years. During this period very little new information was imparted. Only minor changes were made in any of the Papers. Some matter was added -- some removed -- but there was little revision or amplification of the text.

What has just been recorded refers more particularly to Parts I, II, and III of the Urantia Book. Part IV -- The Jesus Papers -- had a little different origin. They were produced by a midway commission and were completed one year later than the other Papers. The first three parts were completed and certified to us in A.D. 1934. The Jesus Papers were not so delivered to us until 1935.

The Delay In Receiving The Jesus Papers

The delay of one year in the reception of the Jesus Papers -- Part IV of the Urantia Book -- may be explained as follows: The midwayers were a bit apprehensive about becoming involved in the suit pending in the Universe courts -- Gabriel vs. Lucifer -- and they hesitated to complete their project until they were assured that they had full authority to retell the story of Jesus' life on earth.

After some months waiting there came the mandate from Uversa directing the United Midwayers of Urantia to proceed with their project of revealing the story of the life and teaching of Michael when incarnated on Urantia, and not only assuring them that they were not in "contempt" of the Uversa courts, but instead granting them a mandate to do this service and admonishing any and all persons connected therewith to refrain from interfering with, or in any way hindering, the execution of such an undertaking.

And this is the explanation of why the Jesus Papers appear one year after the other Papers had been completed.

Reason For Silence Respecting Details Of The Origin Of The Urantia Book

Among the several reasons given us at the time we were requested not to discuss the details of our personal experiences associated with the origin of the Urantia Book, the two major reasons were the following:

- 1. Unknown Features. There is much connected with the appearance of the Urantia Papers which no human being fully understands. None of us really knows just how this phenomenon was executed. There are numerous missing links in our understanding of how this revelation came to appear in written English.

If any one of us should tell any one all he really knows about the technique and methods employed throughout the years of our getting this Revelation, such a narration would satisfy no one -- there are too many missing links.

- 2. The main reason for not revealing the identity of the "Contact Personality" is that the Celestial Revelators do not want any human being -- any human name -- ever to be associated with the Urantia Book. They want this revelation to stand on its own declarations and teachings.

They are determined that future generations shall have the book wholly free from all mortal connections -- they do not want a Saint Peter, Saint Paul, Luther, Calvin or Wesley. The book does not even bear the imprint of the printer who brought the book into being.

Remember: You could appreciate a good poem -- even if you did not know the author. Likewise, you could enjoy a symphony even if you were ignorant of the composer.

How We Got The Urantia Papers

Just about all that is known or could be told about the origin of the Urantia Papers is to be found, here

and there, in the Urantia Book. A list of such references is to be found on the back of the dust jacket of the Book.

Let us take a brief look at these citations.

- 1. Page 1, par. 2. This passage refers to the difficulty of presenting expanded spiritual concepts when restricted to circumscribed human language, such as English.
 - 2. Page 1, par. 4. An Orvonton Commission participated in the revelation and prepared this Foreword.
 - 3. Page 17, par. 1. In presenting this revelation of augmented spiritual values and universe meanings, more than one thousand human concepts were drawn from the minds of human beings of the present and the past.
 - 4. Page 16, par.8 & Page 1343, par. 1. In all revelation of truth, preference is given to the highest existing human concepts of ideality and reality. Only in the absence of the human concept is superhuman knowledge revealed.
 - 5. Page 1109, par. 4. Revelators are seldom at liberty to anticipate scientific discoveries. Truth is timeless, but the teachings respecting the physical sciences and certain phases of cosmology will become partially obsolescent as a result of the new discoveries of advancing scientific investigations. The cosmology of the Urantia Revelation is not inspired. Human wisdom must evolve.
 - 6. Page 215, par. 2-9 Human pedagogy proceeds from the simple to the complex. The Urantia Revelation begins with the more complex and goes on to the consideration of the more simple. Instead of beginning with man reaching up for God, the Urantia Papers begin with God -- reaching down and finding man.
 - 7. Page 865. par. 6, 7 The narrative of the midwayers function in initiating and carrying forward to completion the Urantia Revelation.
 - 8. Page 865, par. 2, & Page 1208, par. 7. Midway creatures are always employed in the phenomenon of communication with material beings through the technique of "Contact Personalities." The "subject" through whom the Urantia Papers were bestowed had a highly experienced Thought Adjuster. The "subject's" relative indifference and unconcern regarding the work of his indwelling Adjuster was in every way favorable to the execution and completion of this revelatory project.
 - 9. Page 1256, par. 1. The contact personality was a member of the Urantia Reserve Corps of Destiny. This was just one of several conditions favoring the impartation of the Urantia Revelation.
 - 10. Page 1008, par. 3. The Urantia Revelation is unique in that it is presented by multiple authors. The Urantia Revelation, like its predecessors, is not inspired.
 - 11. Page 32, par.2. A Divine Counselor "portrays the reality and nature of the Father with unchallengeable authority."
 - 12. Page 17, par. 2. The Revelators depend upon the indwelling Adjusters and the Spirit of Truth to help us in the appropriation of the truth in the Urantia Revelation.
 - 13. page 1007, par. 1. Revelation keeps in touch with evolution. Revelation is adapted to the age of its bestowal. New revelation maintains contact with preceding revelations.
-

Functioning Of The Contact Commissioners

During these early years the Contact Commissioners received many communications and directives in writing. Almost all of these messages had annotation at the bottom of the last page which read: "To be destroyed by fire not later than the appearance of the Urantia Papers in print." It was the design of our unseen friends to prevent the appearance of an "Urantia Apocrypha" subsequent to the publication of the Urantia Book.

All of this was encouraging to us in that it assured us that the Urantia Papers would some time be published. It sustained our hopes through the long waiting years of delay.

The fact that no provision was ever made for replacing members of the Contact Commission who might be lost through disability or death, also led us to entertain the belief that the Book would be published during the lifetime of some of us.

The Commissioners were the custodians of the Urantia manuscript, keeping the carbon copy of the typewritten transcript in a fireproof vault. they were also charged with full responsibility for supervising all the details connected with the publication of the Book, securing the international copyrights, etc.

We were enjoined to refrain from discussing the identity of the Contact Personality and, after the publication of the Book, to make any statement at any time as to whether the "subject" was still living or was deceased.

The Seventy

In 1939, some of us thought the time had come when we should form a class to engage in the more serious and systematic study of the Urantia Papers. This project was presented to the Forum and when those who wished to join such a group were counted, it was found that just 70 persons desired to enter upon this study. So for several years this class was referred to as "The Seventy." Two or three years preceding the formation of The Seventy an informal group had been meeting on Wednesday evenings.

The Seventy carried on systematic study of the Urantia Papers from April 3, 1939 to the summer of 1956, and was the forerunner of the later "School of the Urantia Brotherhood."

During these years the Seventy enrolled 107 students.

The Seventy carried on its work of study, thesis writing, and practice of teaching for 17 years. During this period eight written communications were given to the Seventy by the Seraphim of Progress attached to the superhuman Planetary Government of Urantia.

The Publication Mandate

At long last, permission to publish the Urantia Papers was granted. The Introduction to this mandate reads:

"We regard the Urantia Book as a feature of the progressive evolution of human society. It is not germane to the spectacular episode of epochal revolution, even though it may apparently be timed to

appear in the wake of one such revolution in human society. The Book belongs to the era immediately to follow the conclusion of the present ideological struggle. That will be the day when men will be willing to seek truth and righteousness. When the chaos of the present confusion has passed, it will be more readily possible to formulate the cosmos of a new and improved era of human relationships. And it is for this better order of affairs on earth that the book has been made ready.

"But the publication of the book has not been postponed to that (possibly) somewhat remote date. An early publication of the book has been provided so that it may be in hand for the training of leaders and teachers. Its presence is also required to engage the attention of persons of means who may be thus led to provide funds for translation into other languages."

Upon receipt of these instructions, the Contact Commissioners entered upon the task of publishing the Urantia Book and preparation of plans for its distribution.

The Papers were published just as we received them. The Contact Commissioners had no editorial authority. Our job was limited to "spelling, capitalization, and punctuation."

Before the demise of Dr. Lena K. Sadler in August, 1939 she had collected about twenty thousand dollars for the publication fund, and this was used to set type and prepare plates for the printing of the book.

The Urantia Foundation

It was these plates of the Urantia Book which constituted the basis for the formation of the Urantia Foundation. This Foundation, set up under the laws of Illinois, was completed on January 11, 1950. The first Board of Trustees were:

- William M. Hales, President
- William S. Sadler, Jr., Vice President
- Emma L. Christensen, Secretary
- Wilfred C. Kellogg, Treasurer
- Edith Cook, Assistant Secretary.

It was learned that one of the wealthy members of the Forum desired to contribute fifty thousand dollars for the publication of the Book. By instruction, this was circumvented, because, they told us, it was best to give all parties concerned an opportunity to contribute to the publication fund.

Accordingly, an appeal was made for \$50,000.00 to defray the expense of printing ten thousand copies. The response was immediate. The sum contributed was in excess of forty-nine thousand dollars. The first money to reach the Foundation office was one thousand dollars from the late Sir Hubert Wilkins, the arctic explorer.

The Book was published under international copyright October 12, 1955.

The Urantia Brotherhood

It was inevitable that some sort of fraternal organization would grow out of the teachings of the Urantia Book. All interested persons could see that the Urantia teachings were opposed to the sectarianism of

Christian believers. It was clear that it was not the purpose of the Urantia Revelation to start a new church.

Accordingly, on January 2, 1955, a group of persons who believed the teachings of the Book and who were interested in their proclamation, assembled in Chicago and completed the organization of the Urantia Brotherhood, a voluntary and fraternal organization of Urantia believers. This group composed the charter membership of the Urantia Brotherhood, and were 36 in number.

A Constitution and By-laws were adopted, and since that date numerous Societies have been formed throughout the United States.

The over-all purpose of the Brotherhood is well expressed in the Preamble to the Constitution.

Preamble

"Inasmuch as it is our most solemn conviction that the comfort, happiness, and well-being of man will be enhanced by the creation of an organization devoted to the purposes hereinafter expressed may best be accomplished through the mutual assistance and association of a body of people working together for a common cause, we do hereby unite together as a voluntary association and fellowship under the name of Urantia Brotherhood, and we do hereby adopt and establish this constitution of Urantia Brotherhood."

The original 36 Founders became the General Council which was designed to govern the Brotherhood for its first nine years.

The First Urantia Society of Chicago was organized and granted Charter No. 1 on June 17, 1956. The Society had 34 charter Members. The present membership of the First Society is 142.

Distribution Of The Urantia Book

At the time of the publication of the Urantia Book we were given many suggestions respecting the methods we should employ in the work of its distribution. These instructions may be summarized as follows:

- 1. Study the methods employed by Jesus in introducing his work on earth. Note how quietly he worked at first -- so often after even a miracle, he would admonish the recipient of his ministry, saying: "Tell no man what has happened to you."
- 2. We were advised to avoid all efforts to achieve early and spectacular recognition.
- 3. During the first five years, these methods have been adhered to. The distribution increases yearly. At present, more than fifty book stores, from coast to coast, carry the Book.

The vast majority of the Brotherhood have occurred in this sort of quiet and gradual presentation of the Book. Only a few individuals have exhibited some restlessness and craving for aggressive plans for increased distribution.

One thing should be made clear: Nothing is done to interfere with the energetic and enthusiastic efforts of any individuals to introduce the Urantia Book to his varied contacts and human associations.

The Urantia Brotherhood School

Among the early activities of the Brotherhood was the organization of the School of the Brotherhood which began its first session in September 1956. The degree granted after three years of training is that of "Ordained Teacher." A shorter course of study leads to the status of "Certified Leader."

The School is conducted by the Educational Committee. Many textbooks have been prepared for use in the School and for use by a future Correspondence School which will no doubt materialize as the Urantia Book continues to be distributed throughout the world.

- The following textbooks have been prepared:
 - The Theology of the Urantia Book, Part I
 - The Theology of the Urantia Book, Part II
 - The Theology of the Urantia Book, Part III
 - The Theology of the Urantia Book, Part IV
 - The Teachings of Jesus
 - The Short Course in Doctrine
 - Worship and Wisdom
 - Science in the Urantia Book, Vol. I
 - Science in the Urantia Book, Vol. II
- In Preparation
 - The Urantia Book and the New Testament
 - Analytic Studies in Part I
 - Analytic Studies in Part II
 - Diagrams and Maps

The course of study is planned to cover a three years' seminary education. At present, only part time work is provided at evening sessions.

The curriculum embraces courses in the following subjects:

- Techniques of Public Speaking
- Leadership and Teaching
- Comparative Religion
- Educational Psychology
- Christian Sects and Denominations
- Homiletics
- Old and New Testament History
- Presentation of the Urantia Book
- Studies in the Urantia Book
 - Urantia Doctrine
 - Synthetic Studies
 - Topical Studies

- Life of Christ
- Worship and Wisdom
- Short Course in Doctrine
- Comparison with the Four Gospels
- Science in the Urantia Book
- Critical Analysis

As yet, no degrees of "Ordained Teacher" have been granted, but diplomas as "Certified Leader" have been given to 14 individuals.

The number of registered students taking credit courses has averaged about thirty. A like number of "auditors" attend the classes.

Appendix I

How We Did Not Get The Urantia Book

Recently, a group of ministers from northern Indiana, who were engaged in studying the Urantia Book, spent the day with us and, during the evening, Dr. Sadler led a discussion on "How We Did Not Get the Urantia Book."

The following is a gist of that presentation:

Several members of this group who participated in the preliminary "contacts" which led up to the appearance of the Urantia Papers had considerable experience in the investigation of psychic phenomena. This group early arrived at the conclusion that the phenomena connected with the personality who was later associated with the Urantia Papers, was in no way similar to any other well-known type of psychic performance -- such as hypnotism, automatic writing, clairvoyance, trances, spirit mediumship, telepathy, or double personality.

It should be made clear that the antecedents of the Urantia Papers were in no way associated with so-called spiritualism -- with its seances and supposed communication with the spirits of departed human beings.

Appendix II

Psychic Phenomena: Unusual Activities Of The Marginal Consciousness (The Subconscious Mind)

(From additional notes in the same collection dated 5/7/58)

- 1. Automatic Writing
- 2. Automatic Talking

- a. Speaking in "Tongues"
- b. Trance Mediums
- c. Spirit Mediums
- d. Catalepsy
- 3. Automatic Hearing -- Clairaudience
 - a. Hearing "Voices"
- 4. Automatic Seeing
 - a. Dream States -- Twilight Mentation
 - b. Visions -- Automatic Dramatization
 - c. Hallucinations (Shifty "Reality" Feelings)
- 5. Automatic Thinking
 - a. Automatic Fearing -- Anxiety Neurosis
 - b. Automatic Ideation -- Mental Compulsions
 - c. Automatic Judgements -- Intuition, "Hunches"
 - d. Automatic Association of Ideas -- Premonitions
 - e. Automatic Guessing -- E.S.P. -- Extra-Sensory Perception
 - f. Automatic Deductions -- Delusions -- Dreams and Hypnosis
- 6. Automatic Remembering
 - a. Clairvoyance -- Automatic Memory Associations
 - b. Telepathy -- Mind Reading (?) [question mark in original]
 - c. Fortune Telling (Largely Fraudulent)
 - d. Musical and Mathematical Marvels
- 7. Automatic Acting
 - a. Automatic Behavior -- (Major Hysteria, Witchcraft.)
 - b. Automatic Motion -- Motor Compulsions
 - c. Automatic Overdrives -- Manic Episodes
 - d. Automatic Walking -- somnambulism
- 8. Automatic Personalization
 - a. Automatic Forgetting -- Amnesia
 - b. Automatic Dissociation -- Double and Multiple Personality
 - c. Schizophrenia -- Split Personality
- 9. Combined and Associated Psychic States

Note: The technique of the reception of the Urantia Book in English in no way parallels or impinges upon any of the above phenomena of the marginal consciousness.



Forum Picnic in the Hales' back yard, June 21, 1947



Phil Copenhaver, Jr.
May, 1947



Pine Lodge, September 1947
Forum retreat location at Beverly Shores, Indiana



Forum Party, Beverly Shores, September 20, 1947
Herman Schell, Ruth and Bob Burton, Dr. Sadler, Edmond Kulieke



Forum Party, Beverly Shores, September 20, 1947
Wilfred Kellogg, Anna Kellogg, Louise Pritchard, Ernest Pritchard, Charlotte Dyon



Forum Picnic at the Hales', June 19, 1948
Edith Cook, Elizabeth James, Leone Sadler, Helen Thurman,
Eva Vincent



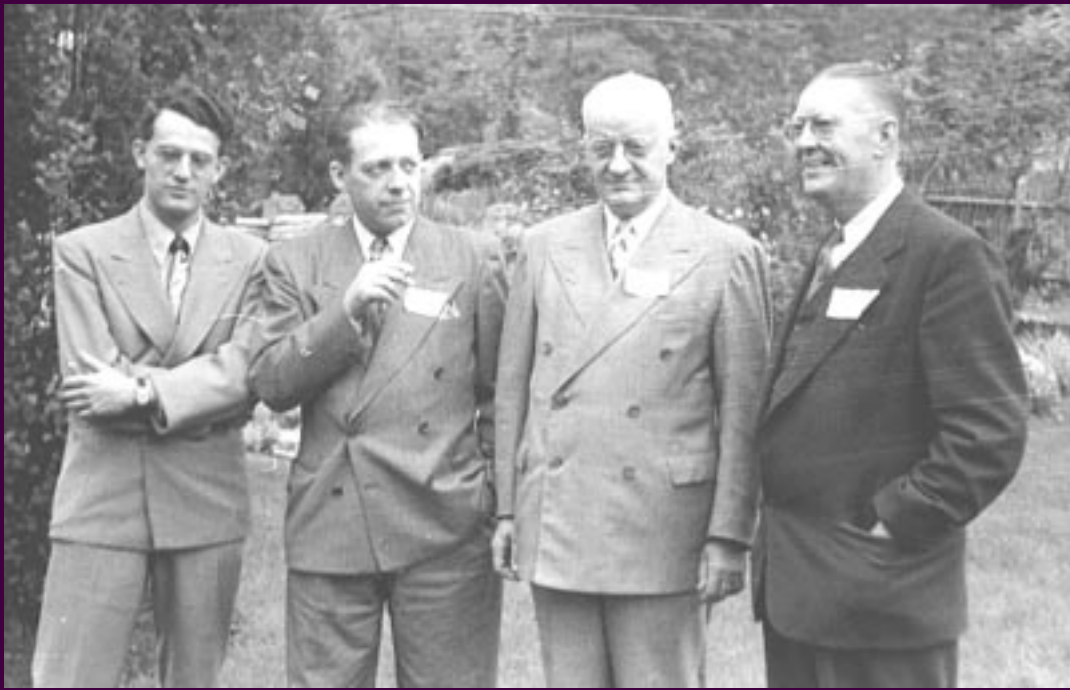
Forum Picnic, June 19, 1948
Bill Sadler, Jr., Alvin Kulieke, Lucille Kulieke,
Gerry and Warren Kulieke, Charlie Rawson,
Kenton Stephens



Edith Cook and Lois Lockwood in front of the Hales' home
June 1948



Edith Cook
June 1948



Picnic at the Hales', June 1948
l-r: (unknown), Art Born, Lee Miller Jones, Charlie Rawson



Forum Picnic, June 1948
Mr. & Mrs. Hales, Dr. Sadler



Jane Allen, Ruth Renn, Marjorie Bates
in the garden at the Hales'
June 1948



Forum Picnic, June 1948
Wilfred Kellogg, Mrs. Case, Mrs. Kellogg, Maizie Jones, Mrs. Chilton,
Mr. Chilton, Katherine Douglas



Beverly Shores on terrace, September 18, 1948
Bob Burton, Fred Leverenz, Harry Rowley, Al Dyon, Wilfred Kellogg



Beverly Shores, September 1948
Top; Laura Walters talking with Earl Steinbeck, Nellie Dale and Blanche Cross,
Lois Lockwood, Eva Vincent, Bill Hales, Marian Rowley



Winifred Bucklin Manjarrez, Al Leverenz,
Ticky Jones
June 18, 1949



Meeting at the Hales', June 18, 1949

Background; Charlie Rawson, Barney Burton, Helen Thurman;
Foreground; Harry Rowley, Ben Copenhaver, Fred Bowman,
Tom Wideroe, Harry Beatty, Knox Kreutzer, Katherine Adler



Forum Meeting at the Hales', June 18, 1949
Background: Grace Kloze, Ann Williams, Blancne Welb,
Marian Rowley, Leone Sadler, Veronica Miller, Mrs. Cree,
Art and Edna Burch; Foreground: Elizabeth James, her
daughter-in-law and son, Grace & Wesley James,
Mr. Harrah



Leone and Patricia Sadler
September 10, 1949



Forum Picnic, Beverly Shores, September 1949
Foreground: Mr. & Mrs. Vogel, Florence and Barney Burton



Forum Picnic, September 1949
Bill Sadler, Jr., Bill Sadler, III in background, Wesley James



Dr Sadler at Beverly Shores Picnic, September 1949
Winifred Bucklin Manjarrez facing camera



Forum Picnic at Beverly Shores, September 1949
Dr. Anne Whitchurch, Anna and Wilfred Kellogg, Dr. and Mrs. Case



Forum Picnic, September 1949
Foreground: Bill and Leone Sadler, Edith Cook, Elizabeth James



Forum Picnic at the Hales', June 10, 1950
Marian Rowley, Helen Thurman, Minnie Green, Lily Uhlemann



Forum Picnic at the Hales', June 10, 1950
Marjorie Bates, Ruth Burton, Jane Allen, Ann Copenhaver



Forum Picnic at the Hales', June 10, 1950
Hugh Tulane, Mrs. Leverenz, Bill Hales



Forum Picnic, June 10, 1950
Bill Sadler, Jr., Inez Burch, Patti Clegg, Dave Adler,
Marian Rowley, Edith Cook



Warren Kulieke at Beverly Shores picnic,
June 21, 1958



Anna Kellogg, Dr. Sadler, Chuck Sadler
June 27, 1959



Mr. and Mrs. Edmond Kulieke, Sr.
June 27, 1959



Forum Picnic, Beverly Shores, June 27, 1959
Geraldine and Warren Kulieke, Grace Stephens (Warren's sister)



Beverly Shores, June 25, 1960
Leone Sadler and Helen Thurman



Beverly Shores Urantia picnic, June 25, 1960
Edith Cook, Irene and Meredith Sprunger



Beverly Shores Urantia picnic, June 25, 1960
Mary Peterson, Patricia Sadler



Beverly Shores Urantia picnic, June 25, 1960
Meredith Sprunger, Alice Schlundt, Irene Sprunger



Singing at the Urantia picnic, Beverly Shores, June 25, 1960



Warren Kulieke leading singing
Beverly Shores Urantia picnic, June 25, 1960



Leone Sadler
September 1960



O'Hare Airport, August 21, 1960
Jacques Weiss, Dr. Sadler, Edith Cook



O'Hare Airport, August 21, 1960
Chuck Sadler, Jacques Weiss, Dr. Sadler



Bill Hales, Helen Copenhaver
June 22, 1963



Edmond Kulieke, Sr.
June 22, 1963



Mrs. Edmond Kulieke, Sr.
June 22, 1963



Virginia Bowman, Lucille Kulieke
June 22, 1963



Nancy Grimsley and Edith Cook
July 29, 1964



Marian Rowley and Vern Grimsley
July 29, 1964



Summer Seminar at 533, August 7, 1965



Saturday night party, 3rd floor at 533, August 7, 1965
Ernie & Louise Pritchard, Tom Kendall



Saturday night party, 3rd floor at 533; August 7, 1965
Marion Barby, Carolyn Kendall, Frank Sgaraglino



Summer Study Session at 533, August 8, 1965
Lucielle Kulieke, Martin Myers, Alvin Kulieke