

Jan. 19, 1957

Dr. Gerhard W. Grauer
Fullerton and Orchard Sts.
Chicago 14, Illinois

Dear Dr. Grauer:

Mr. Harold Karrer has informed me that he presented you with a copy of the Urantia Book. If you will read this book I'm rather sure that you will not take it lightly. After making a critical study of it and the people associated with it, I am convinced of its authenticity.

These revelations were completed around 1934 and were placed in the custody of a select group of people known as the Urantia Forum. You will find these people of highest caliber and unquestioned integrity. This first group was composed of seventy people under the leadership of Dr. William S. Sadler and his wife, Dr. Lena Kellogg Sadler. They were a nationally prominent medical team until Dr. Lena's death in 1939. As you may know, Dr. Sadler was a pioneer in the development of American Psychiatry. He has written over twenty-five books some of which have been standard text books in medical schools for many years. He was professor in the Post-Graduate Medical School of Chicago University and lecturer in psychiatry at McCormick Theological Seminary for almost thirty years.

Other men of international reputation who studied the Urantia Papers before publication and fully accepted them were the famous magician, Howard Thurston and the noted explorer, Sir Herbert Wilkins. Thurston, who took delight in exposing all sorts of fraud, became so absorbed with the Urantia Papers that he dropped his work for a whole year to make an intensive study of the Urantia Papers. Wilkins likewise took three months out of his busy career to study the Papers.

Finally permission was granted to publish the Papers and The Urantia Book was released to the public in October, 1955. At this time the Urantia Forum was organized into the Urantia Brotherhood with a constitution and by-laws. This was done largely as a defensive measure against fanatics who might get hold of the book and attempt to start a new cult.

William S. Sadler, Jr. is the current president of the Urantia Brotherhood. Mr. Sadler is an outstanding business man heading an agency which evaluates business executives and general plant efficiency of industrial institutions through out North America.

I personally was introduced to the Urantia Book by Louis M. Hammerschmidt, a prominent lawyer, member of our Synodical Council, member of the Elmhurst College Board who contributed \$300,000 toward their chapel and public minded citizen of South Bend; and W. F. Barrah, president, co-founder and now Honorary Chairman of the Board of Directors of the National-Standard Co. (a large industrial firm of the United States, Canada and England), a man of exceptional ability,

character and integrity. All of these men and many others have approached the Urantia Papers with considerable skepticism but after careful and critical study have become thoroughly convinced of their authenticity. Dr. Sadler who was very close to the materialization of these papers and in actual communication with the secondary midwayers told me that he held out until the Papers on the twelve apostles came. As a psychiatrist he then became convinced that only a being who had access to the human mind could have written them. Each individual is impressed with different parts of the book. But I am convinced that no human being or group of human beings could have produced it. It is too homogeneous and the spiritual insights too superior for mortals to have written it - when you look at it in its totality.

Obviously this book is not for most people. Dr. Sadler had several papers read to me which they were allowed to keep but not publish. These papers point out that they were being allowed to publish the book long before the world was ready for its world-wide mission. But it was given for those who were ready for it that leaders and teachers might be prepared through study groups so that they would be ready when the time came. Most of the Urantia people believe that we will not see that day. It is difficult to say. But I would be careful who I introduced the book to - most people would be disturbed with even the idea of such a book. In any case over rapid growth would be unhealthy and publicity most unfortunate. At this stage it must be a personal ministry.

Mr. Karrer will no doubt call on you again after you have had time to read some of the book. You may have questions you wish to ask him at that time. If there is any help or service I can render, please let me know.

Sincerely yours,

Meredith J. Sprunger