

2805 Skimmer Point Drive, South
Gulfport, Florida 33707
September 2, 1982

*Write for
updates information
re Conference
2/8/84
Lou*

John Hay
1636 - 18th Street
Boulder, Colorado 80302

Dear John:

In 1980 over 6,000 international delegates attended the First Global Conference of the Future, "Thinking Globally, Acting Locally," in Toronto, Canada. As a delegate, I was inspired by many opportunities to meet personally with others from all over the world, who were committed to a positive future for our planet. A large central networking board failed to reveal even one other "Urantia Book" student attending this conference. It occurred to me then, how rich were the opportunities to integrate and synthesize seemingly unmanageable and overwhelmingly diverse facts and opinions with the expanded perspectives and concepts of reality, that are the superlative intellectual benefits, coming from the study of the "Urantia Book".

In Washington, this past July, the World Futures Society hosted a large seven-day conference, "The Communications Era". Resources of time and energy permitted me to attend only those workshops on religion and values. These were scheduled in large rooms and were filled beyond capacity. The content of the workshops and dozens of personal conversations confirmed a grave concern about morality and a growing hunger for spiritual understanding and direction. I experienced an unprecedented receptivity to expanded concepts of the "Urantia Book" and a keen interest in the book itself. Again, attempts to link with any other "Urantia Book" students attending the conference were not successful.

Based on my favorable personal encounters, and an increased understanding of the thinking of some of the very influential authors in the futures movement, ie. Robert Theobald, Buckminster Fuller, Marilyn Ferguson, Barbara Hubbard, Willis Harman, Alvin Toffler, etc., I am convinced that within this grass roots movement towards more informed responsible participation in creating positive futures, there are exciting opportunities for students of the "Urantia Book". I feel that the evolution of concepts is one of the prerequisites for a workable harmonizing of universal values

that will allow for the rich diversity of the human groups on this planet. It's clear to me, that even among so-called "futurists", it's not generally recognized how we've outgrown our fundamental concepts. Concepts such as Love, Personality, Will, Family, Death, Global Sovereignty, God, Universe, Responsibility, need oceanic expansion if we are to be successful in unifying our spiritual energies in solving the unique problems inherent in such planetary diversity. Confusion, anxiety and despair easily result when thinkers pour "quarts" of this decade's complex, differentiated factual information into "pint-size" mental images belonging to past centuries. However, because they are willing to admit dissatisfaction with obsolescence and seeks ways of adapting to a swelling, often paradoxical, overload of information, "futures-oriented" persons are tremendously receptive to new ideas that function to unify and synthesize. It's my perception that this psychological readiness is primarily due to individual initiative and unselfish concern for the world and all its inhabitants. What an opportunity is here for patient visionaries to foster faith through the expansion of concepts as revealed in the "Urantia Book"!

My purpose in writing is fourfold:

- (1) to acquaint you with my opinion of the receptive soil existing within the "futures movement" to the expanded concepts of the "Urantia Book".
- (2) To give you the opportunity to join with me in a loose networking of religionists (RFN), so mutual exchange can occur.
- (3) to invite you
 - (a) to consider submitting your own paper to the second Global Conference on the Future, "Toward Community: Thinking Freely, Acting Courageously", in Bombay India, 1984. (see enclosed notice)
 - (b) to consider what resources might facilitate your attending such a conference as a delegate, or presenter, if you were inclined to do so.
- (4) to be gracious enough to respond with your comments and questions, and recommendations as to who else I might contact.

Please find included with this letter a copy of the announcement and call for papers for India, information on R.F.N., R.F.N. directory application, a copy of the July issue of Grapevine, and a World Future Society Book Catalogue.

Thanks in advance for taking the trouble to go through it all.

Warmest wishes,

Sue.

Sue Tennant
(Gulfport, Florida)

P.S.

Hope things are going well with the school John - perhaps some of those full-time Wrentham Board students would have some interest in this area. Included here as well are two other articles - hope you enjoy them! Sue.