

Expert Says Book Offers Hope

By Mike Burger

The Urantia Book is a book of "hope", says Jacques Weiss, who spent 7,000 hours of spare time translating it from English to French.

In Oklahoma City over the weekend he was the honored guest of the First Urantia Society of Oklahoma at a meeting at the home of Berkeley Elliott, 14 SW 97.

Miss Elliott explained that the First Urantia Society of Oklahoma was chartered 12 years ago and has 64 members in the Oklahoma City area.

"We are not an organized religion at all," she emphasized. "We are a social organization with religious objectives."

She said the members belong to a wide spectrum of churches including Roman Catholic.

"We are not trying to make anyone unhappy with his present religion if he is satisfied with it," she said.

"We are looking for people with questioning minds who have not been able to find all the answers they seek in the Bible.

"We feel the Urantia Book is complementary to and goes beyond the Bible providing more complete answers," Miss Elliott said.

"The book was written down between 1926 and 1935," Weiss explained. He said the book was dictated by a spirit to a "human contact personality."

The book was published in 1955. The spirit said a translator would be found, Weiss said.

"I didn't know anything about the book at the time but it happened that I was the one to translate it," he said.

Many people are confused by the state of the world around them and seek answers to the three big questions who are they, where do they come from and what is their destiny, he said.

Some become very frustrated and try to break everything, many resign themselves to living with the world as it is, but some seek until they find.

"I think they can find the answers they seek in the Urantia Book," he said.

Weiss worked on the translation of the 2,000-odd-page volume before and after his regular job as president of two small coal and transportation companies in his home city -- Paris.

The book is an alliance of science and religion he said. It describes the history and origin of the universe in both scientific terms covering such subjects as astronomy, evolution and geology, and in religious terms including the origin of soul, the rebellion of Lucifer, the story of Adam and Eve and the Will of God.

Urantia is the name given by the book to the planet Earth.

At the center of the universe is the Isle of Paradise surrounded by many giant planets and thousands of smaller planets. This entire inner structure is surrounded by "dark gravity bodies" which do not reflect light and hide the inner structure from view, he said.

The seven super universes, all of which are inhabited, surround the inner structure and are in turn surrounded by huge superuniverses as yet uninhabited.

The book is considered the fifth epochal revelation, Miss Elliott said. The fourth epochal revelation was the coming of Christ, she added.

The fourth and last part of the book is in fact a re-dictation of the New Testament of the Bible, Weiss said.

The book has been distributed in 38 French speaking countries since Weiss translated it. Miss Elliott estimated that 15,000 copies have been sold in English and says the book is being translated into Spanish, Italian, German and Finnish.

We do not claim it is the final answer. When the world is ready for another revelation there will be one, she said.



Jacques Weiss and an English copy of the Urantia Book.

8-19-70
copy to A.K. Julia Stephens
T.A.K. Walter Bohmeyer