

The Agondonter



Vol. III, No. 2

FIRST URANTIA SOCIETY OF LOS ANGELES

Winter 1973

BON VOYAGE, BILL FENDERSON

Memorial services for our very dear friend Bill Fenderson were held in November, 1972, at the Palms Westminster United Presbyterian Church.

Vern Grimsley of the Family of God Broadcast presented the service. Bill's great sense of humor and kindly insight was once again revealed as Vern read excerpts from Bill's newspaper column, "Hack's Digest."

Bill was a member of the First Urantia Society of Los Angeles, giving much of his time in loving service. He also was on the staff of the Agondonter.

A musician with the Mann Brothers Band of the Orpheum circuit for 15 years, Bill joined the staff of the Culver City Star-News in 1949, where he covered Culver City and wrote the "Hack's Digest" column. Upon his retirement in 1971 he became a freelance writer.

He was named "Man of the Year" by the Culver City Chamber of Commerce and was the recipient of many other awards.

Bill is survived by his wife Julia, whom we all know and admire, two daughters, his sister, two stepsons--Martin Early of Northridge and Dr. Thomas Early of La Mesa, and ten grandchildren.

Godspeed on your journey through the mansion worlds, Bill Fenderson!

--Elizabeth Schiavo

IN MEMORIAM

Alvin L. Kulieke, president of the Urantia Brotherhood, passed away on January 14, 1973.

Our thoughts of faith and love go to his family.

What a glorious adventure he has embarked upon in his ascent to the mansion worlds!



"AS WE PASS BY" (Continued from last issue)

In a desire to encourage those of us who are less evangelistic by nature into positive attempts to begin sharing, I am listing several suggestions for consideration. In addition, two books of value are Rosalind Rinker's "You Can Witness with Confidence" and Bruce Larson's "Living on the Growing Edge." The publisher for both is Zondervan.

1. Beginners, especially, might want to memorize a few illuminating sentences from the Urantia Book which are good for sharing, possibly in your own words. For example: "There lives within every human mind a divine spirit, the gift of the Father in heaven. This good spirit ever strives to lead us to God, to help us find God and to know God..." (1472) Or: "Do not become discouraged by the discovery that you are human. Human nature may tend toward evil, but it is not inherently sinful." (1739) Or: "You cannot truly love your fellows by a mere act of the will. Love is only born of thoroughgoing understanding of your neighbor's motives and sentiments..." (1098) "Those who have received and recognized the indwelling of God have been born of the Spirit." (381) "My Father loves even his erring children." (1795) Or: "Peace on earth will not come until all are willing to believe and enter into their glorious inheritance of sonship with God." (1824) You have your own favorites.

2. Remember Jesus' love for every individual. His apostles were impressed by the way he would "pause in the midst of a profound discourse that he might go out in the road to speak good cheer to a passing woman laden with her burden of body and soul." And "Nothing ever seemed so important to Jesus as the individual human who chanced to be in his immediate presence." (1544)

3. Re-examine Jesus' personal ministry, his casual conversations with all kinds of humans. Remember the time he inspired a young man who worked with him in the repairing of a steering paddle? (1430) What were the words he "dropped from hour to hour" as they worked together? Jesus often encouraged the individual he was speaking with to become a channel of spiritual light to his fellows.

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THE AGONDONTER

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On Jerusem, the ascenders from isolated worlds such as Urantia "are known as the agondonters, meaning evolutionary will creatures who can believe without seeing, persevere when isolated, and triumph over insuperable difficulties even when alone."
(U.B. 579)

**WRITERS NEEDED! SUBMIT YOUR MATERIAL TO
THE AGONDONTER!**

HOW TO SUBMIT MATERIAL:

- *Type your material in columns no more than 44 typewritten characters wide.
- *Indent only for paragraphs (3 spaces).
- *Send material to Elizabeth Schiavo, 285-A Pleasant Avenue, Pasadena 91101.
- *THE AGONDONTER reserves the right to edit all material submitted in accordance with good taste, legal considerations, and space requirements.

STUDY GROUPS

SIERRA MADRE: Monday nights, 8 p.m., 541 San Gabriel Court, Sierra Madre; Jean Becker, leader; phone (213) 355-8772.

FULLERTON: The Bedells, leaders; 1105 East Whiting, Fullerton; phone (714) 870-1900.

SAN FERNANDO VALLEY: Polly Parke, leader; phone 360-5048 for further details.

"AS WE PASS BY" (Continued from page 1)

"If you are more blessed with the truth than (your fellow), his need should challenge you." (1430)

4. The Spirit of Truth will help. Suppose you have shared some concepts with an individual and within the hour you have gone

your way. Have you had any effect upon that person? I suggest that you don't have to know. Trust the Spirit of Truth to bring back the concepts at a later time, to mean something to that person, something the Father can use. Jesus said: "The new kingdom is like a seed growing in the good soil of a field. It does not attain full fruit quickly. There is an interval of time between the establishment of the kingdom in the soul of man and that hour when the kingdom ripens into the full fruit of everlasting righteousness and eternal salvation." (1536) So let the Spirit of Truth do its own work; the sowing is ours, the consequences, God's.

5. Do not attack wrong viewpoints. When someone says something we consider highly unenlightened, we are tempted to jump in with a quick correction. But do not interrupt. Encourage the person to speak and, where we can, let us concede the truth in this thinking. The Master spent six months in Rome with 32 religious leaders and "never once did he attack their errors or even mention the flaws in their teachings. In each case he would select the truth in what they taught and then proceed so to embellish and illuminate this truth in their minds that in a very short time this enhancement of the truth effectively crowded out the associated error..." (1456) Said Jesus to his apostles, "You are not to attack the old ways; you are skillfully to put the leaven of new truth in the midst of the old beliefs." (1932)

6. Let's start experimenting now, and enjoying it. Each of us has something vital to impart. Of course we will make mistakes; we may omit something from a conversation we will wish we'd said. We are indeed imperfect instruments, yet "God's work must truly be our own." Let us pray to be open for opportunities to be channels of God's love any time...any place. "The common people heard (Jesus) gladly because he was one of them, an unpretentious layman; the world's greatest religious teacher was indeed a layman." (2091)

The Urantia Book stresses that the living gospel of the fatherhood of God and the brotherhood of man are "the greatest truths mortal man can ever hear." (2086) Let us be humbly thankful, then, for this privilege of the opportunity to offer guidance to our fellows in their efforts to find the satisfactions of living, even in casual conversations, "as we pass by."
--Jeffrey Bedell

THE THREE RING CIRCUS
by "The Ghost Writer," Jim McNelly

THE RETURN OF MELCHIZEDEK

A recent (1935) communication from our Chief of Seraphim suggests that the old time evangelist and former King of Salem, Machiventa Melchizedek, is expected back on the planet any day for a second appearance. Machiventa, an inspirational lecturer and teacher, was given the right to rule as vicegerant Planetary Prince. This comes shortly after his recent publication on Universal Unity in the URANTIA BOOK.

The planetary government, called a "rather loosely organized" set-up by the Chief, will undoubtedly undergo a profound shakeup when Machiventa returns.

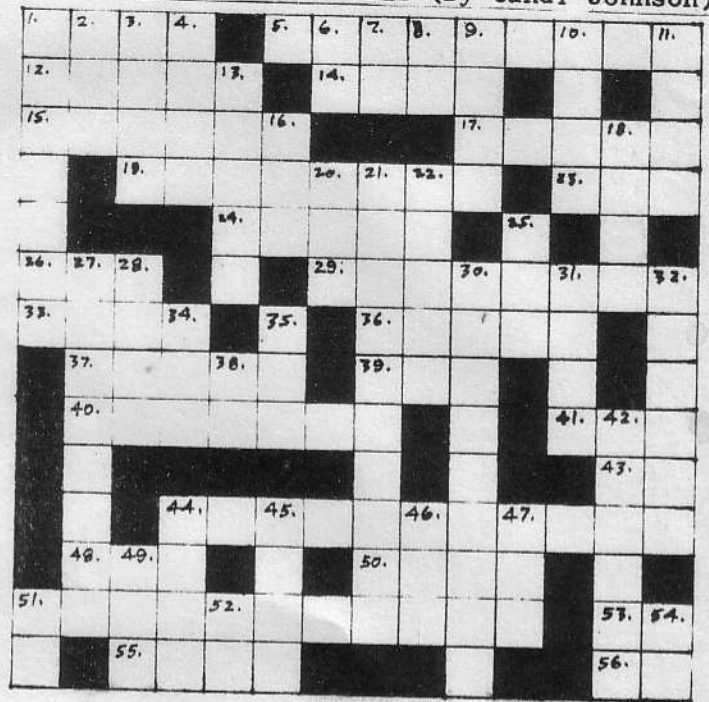
Machiventa, a distinguished author, lecturer, administrator, counselor, and preacher, has been recognized as a spiritual leader by many of the world's great religions. He is credited as having been the first priest to offer bread and wine as a ceremony by the Jews. He is recognized as the founder of "The priesthood of the order of Melchizedek" to which Jesus was said to have belonged. He has also been hailed as the founder and guide of most of the world's ancient religions, most notably Judaism, Hinduism, and Taoism, as well as influencing many others.

The return of Melchizedek would have far-ranging effects on the developing Urantia Brotherhoods and the world's religion as a whole. It might mean that there will be a direct physical representative on the planet once again. It would also mark the end of the previous dispensation.

Whether or not the members of the four and twenty counselors will be out on the universe unemployment lines is unknown. This reporter tried to attend one of the daily conferences held on the planet to ask the Chief or the Most High observer for more details, but without the aid of morontia vision, I was unable to perceive what was being said. In fact, I never even found the meeting place.

My conjectures, however, lead me to the belief that the evolutionary era of leadership by former human compatriots will come to an end. The acceptance of authority by Machiventa would most probably reinstate the formal rule of a Planetary Prince.

URANTIA CROSSWORD PUZZLE (By Candi Johnson)



ACROSS

- | | |
|--------------------------|--------------------------------|
| 1. Center | 6. Preposition |
| 5. Hebrew High Court | 7. Negative |
| 12. So. Am. animal | 8. Sound of laughter |
| 14. Jumping animal | 9. Name of a garden |
| 15. Girl's name | 10. Beams |
| 17. N. African country | 11. Cloth screens |
| 19. Ancient W. Italian | 13. Man with withered hand |
| 23. A relative | 16. Kernel |
| 24. Something else | 18. Half-quart |
| 26. Anger | 20. Pronoun |
| 29. Chemical basics | 21. Heavenly |
| 33. Helps | 22. Amphitheater |
| 36. Adversary | 25. Jewel |
| 37. College officials | 27. Make fun of |
| 39. Unhappy | 28. Adam & Eve's home |
| 40. Residing inside of | 30. Remedies |
| 41. Pull | 31. Yes (Russian) |
| 43. Yes (Spanish) | 32. Ancestors of colored races |
| 44. Capitolis Edentia | 34. Unhappy |
| 48. Flower wreath | 35. Function |
| 50. Glass part of camera | 38. Compass point |
| 51. Vicegerent is one | 42. Handy |
| 53. Above | 44. Pleasant |
| 55. Drink | 45. Attack |
| 56. Note of scale | 46. Man's name |

DOWN

- | | |
|------------------|------------------------|
| 1. Pilate's wife | 47. Request |
| 2. Elderly | 49. Tree |
| 3. Unusual | 51. Parent |
| 4. Give off | 52. Sound of disbelief |
| | 54. State name (Abbr.) |

(SOLUTION IN NEXT ISSUE OF AGONDONTER)