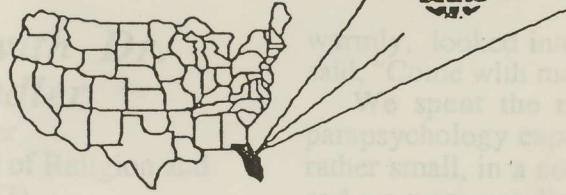


BORDERLAND



A Newsletter from the North East Florida Students of
The Urantia Book®
Summer
1989

Knowledge is possessed only by sharing; it is safeguarded by wisdom and socialized by love. (557)

All in a name...

Borderland. Why? It sounds like the name of a grade B western. There are millions of other names that would do as well, maybe better. So, what's so special about Borderland. The obvious, of course. We live on the border of Georgia, and we also border the Atlantic Ocean. That, alone, might be justification for the name, but, you guessed it, there has to be more.

Beyond the physical geography, borderland is the place we all occupy - a cosmic slot that each of us is born into. It exists between the known and the unknown; the material and the spiritual. It consists in the uncertainty of adventure and the bliss of discovery. It is a land of enigma and intrigue. What we call the end often marks the beginning, and the beginning, the end. (Where's Rod? This is starting to sound like the intro to Twilight Zone.)

It is in such a place, and on such a stage, that we play out the drama of our being. What will the ending be, or will it be a new beginning, and will the beginning end in tragic failure? (Forget the ending. How do we get through 'act one' without falling off the stage?) Can't say, so much depends on the lighting, our positions, the other players. Yet, so much more depends on us, how well we play our part. Will we choose the great adventure - "advance the borders of self-consciousness out through the dim realms of embryonic soul-consciousness in a whole hearted effort to reach the borderland of spirit-consciousness - contact with the divine presence?"

Time will tell. For now, we must content ourselves with the drama, played out one day at a time. Borderland. Maybe the name will stick.

Leesburg Conference

June 2-4 will go down in history. The New Beginnings conference went off on these dates without a hitch. OK, maybe one or two hitches. Set in the idyllic beauty of central Florida next to lake something-or-other, gathered the fearless travelers from all over the state. They rose above the swarms of 'blind mosquitos' (there must be a nuclear power plant near by) and joined in animated renditions of "Cumbaya, Lord, Cumbaya." This was followed by a camp fire with marshmallows. It turns out that the kids (and there were lots of them) discovered the technique of making pointed sticks. They stuck the marshmallows, thrust them in the fire and came up with flaming spears. I don't think there was any permanent eye damage. (Except for the mosquitos, of course.) The remaining two days were spent removing melted marshmallows from the soles of our shoes. (or if you weren't wearing shoes, treating third degree burns.)

But seriously folks, it was a lot of fun. The talks were good, the discussion lively, and opportunities to meet with other readers were numerous. The society met between meetings, and I think that we came up with a name. It seems the previous name was not acceptable to the Brotherhood. They're trying to stay away from names with 'first' in them. Don't ask. I think the final choice was: The Sonshine State Urantia Society. (That's not a typo. Get it, Sonshine - Sunshine.)

An Interview with Dr. William Sadler

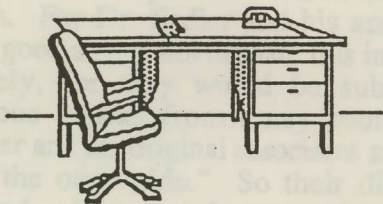
By Mark Roser

(Reprinted from The Journal of Religion and
Psychical Research, July 1987)

Editors Note: It is quite rare to come across any reference to The Urantia Book in religious or philosophical journals. So I was quite surprised to find the following article. I think it will be of interest to readers.

It was with some excitement that I looked forward to a meeting with Dr. Sadler. He was staying in his summer home about a half mile from my home in Beverly Shores, Indiana. This meeting was in 1960. Now, with the passing of all these years, the purpose or meaning of the interview is clearer, and also the reason as to why it was held at all. For those of us who believe in meaningful coincidence, this was a most significant contact, at least for me.

Dr. Sadler was considered an outstanding authority in his field of psychiatry. By 1929 he had published numerous books on psychology and psychiatry, chief of which was *THE MIND AT MISCHIEF* (1929), which for many years was considered the authoritative book on mental illness. In my mind, he was also associated with a group of people who in 1956 had published the Urantia Papers, a collection of essays on the nature and origin of life on this and other planets, as well as an intimate description of the unfolding spiritual nature of humankind and their leaders.



I was taken to meet him by a client of his. At that time, there was at his home a rather large group of people - his friends and associates who were having an outing in the dune area. Much to my amazement, this short, rather stocky man shook my hand

warmly, looked intensely into my face, and said, "Come with me."

We spent the next two hours sharing parapsychology experiences. His study was rather small, in a corner of this large house, and we were not disturbed. He was curious about the experiences which I, as a psychologist, had with paranormal experiences. At that time, I was not unaware of the so-called spiritual phenomena, having studied with Dr. Murray in the Harvard Psychology clinic. I had also had some contact with an Edgar Cayce group and with some other persons who had similar experiences.

The essay came as usual with a note attached, "Please don't do this again, as it caused us a bit of trouble."

The Urantia Papers are claimed by some to be the fifth revelation for mankind, and I was curious as to their origin. So when I asked Dr. Sadler where the papers came from, his answer startled me. He said, "I don't know." This statement was revealing given the extent of his scientific bent of mind and his integrity as a scientist. When I pressed him further he began to explain the events surrounding the origin of the material.

He was told by a psychic that if he would collect the best minds he knew, from various fields and professionals, ask any question and write the request on a piece of paper, and then leave the paper in Dr. Sadler's desk, the following Monday they would have a complete written essay on this question.

A more narrow-minded person might have backed off at this point, but not Dr. Sadler. His manner of authority persuaded other professionals to join him. And so, for ten years or more, the questions were asked and the answers came. Always skeptical, Dr. Sadler said that at one time he became concerned, for his wife began "to believe the papers," particularly as they related to the life of Jesus and the development of the Christian religion. At one time, he said, he put the question in his locked safe in his downtown bank. The essay came as usual with a note

attached, "Please don't do this again, as it caused us a bit of trouble."

intense interest in the quality and depth of intelligent minds giving the answers. The papers were all signed by angelic beings. Finally, he said, as the papers described in detail the personality of each of the disciples, Dr. Sadler was so fascinated by the quality and description of the characters that he decided, with others, to have the papers published. The first edition was published in 1955, followed in time by other editions. Some 200,000 copies have currently been sold, with some editions in foreign languages.

Yet, Dr. Sadler faced a dilemma. He had been told not to publish these papers widely, or share them with the media, or with current professional journals. Nonetheless, he shared these experiences with me, an apparent stranger at that time. Outside of my particular group of associates and friends, I have not talked very much about this interview. After twenty-five years, however, I am convinced that the secrecy surrounding the original group of researchers is no longer needed. The times have changed a great deal since those early years. Many books have been written on materializations and contacts with discarnate or spiritual beings, so that the great fear of these matters has, to some extent, been replaced by a more objective viewpoint.

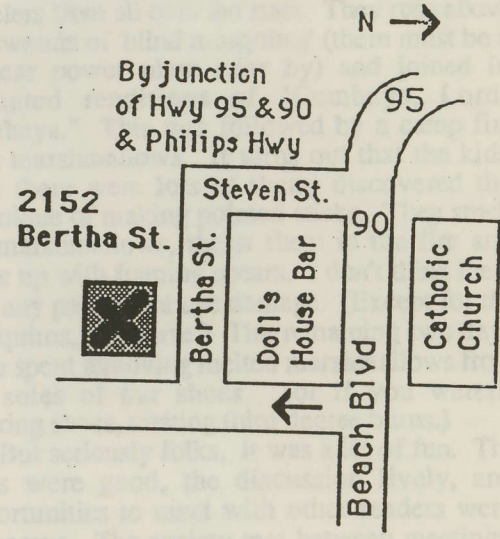
With the threat of atomic destruction, the inability of mankind to stop recurring wars, and a disintegration of values, the times call out for a renewing of convictions of mans spiritual values for the sake of his survival. The Urantia Papers do just that. They can deepen and shape mans search of love and truth. For Dr. Sadler and his associates it was good advice not to share this information widely, for they would be subjected to vicious attacks from many sources. Dr. Sadler and his original associates are now all on "the other side." So their dilemma is solved. The people now charged with knowledge of the Urantia Papers face new challenges as they publish the materials and let the "good news" spread. We are indeed grateful for Dr. Sadler and his associates who so courageously preserved this experience. And we are also grateful for the faithful

servants on the other side, who shared with us their wisdom and love.

Study Group Activities

Study groups are functioning in Jacksonville and Gainesville. The potential for new study groups at the Beaches (Jacksonville) and S. Daytona are in the works. Call Matt for information at 285-4765.

Currently, the Jacksonville study group is meeting in the house of Deatra Junk at 2152 Bertha St., Jacksonville. The times are Wednesday nights from 7:30 to 9:00. The topics are open. We have been discussing selected topics from The Life and Teachings of Jesus. For further information please call 396-5584. See map below:



Map for Deatra Junk.

In addition, on the second Sunday of each month interested readers are welcome to come to the house of Matt and Mercedes Neibaur at 211 North Rosoce, Ponte Vedra Beach. They meet from 1:00 to 3:00 or so. Refreshments are served and the time is used for socializing and to plan coming events. Please call 285-4765 for further information, and dates. Below is a map showing directions: