

THE AGONDONTER PAPER

"Gravity is the omnipotent strand on which are strung the gleaming stars, blazing suns and whirling spheres which constitute the universal physical adornment of the eternal God, who is all things, fills all things, and in whom all things consist". P.125:5, The Urantia Boon.

Volume I Number 3 November, 1964
Published by First Urantia Society of Los Angeles, 78 N. Grand Ave.,
Pasadena, Calif. SY 3-8971

CALENDAR OF COMING EVENTS

October 31st. Saturday 8:00 P. M. Regular informal assembly for study at 2032 Stewart, Santa Monica. 1st Part: Georgia Gecht teaching "Cosmography" 2nd Part: "Inspirational Subjects".

November 14th, same as above.

November 8th, Sunday 2:00 P.M. Regular informal assembly for study at 78 No. Grand Ave., Pasadena. 1st Part: Georgia Gecht teaching "The Evolution of Forces and Energies". 2nd Part: Helen Steen teaching "spirit Beings stationed throughout the Universe".

November 22nd, same as above.

OFFICIAL NOTICE

November 22nd, Sunday 5: P.M. at 78 No. Grand Ave., Pasadena, Calif. Special meeting of the Governing Committee of First Urantia Society of Los Angeles. Attendance required by all officers and committee chairmen.

THE MESOTRON

by SCOTT FORSYTHE

In the Los Angeles Times of August 13, 1964 there appeared an article by the Times Science Editor, Irving S. Bengelsdorf, Ph.D., which dealt with research on the Mesotron or as science calls it, the meson. The article explained that in the 1930's science developed the theory of the mesotron or meson to explain why the nucleus of the atom stayed together and later when research equipment improved the existence of the mesotron was proven.

..Science says that the mesotron serves as the glue which keeps the atomic nucleus cemented together. Science explains that the mesotron keeps the protons and neutrons stuck together in the nucleus by rapidly and continually exchanging the electrical charges of these particles between themselves. ..On Page 479:2 and 3 of the Urantia Book there is a discussion of the mesotron. The book states: "The charged protons and the uncharged neutrons of the nucleus of the atom are held together by the reciprocating function of the mesotron. The mesotron causes the electrical charge of the nuclear particles to be incessantly tossed back and forth between protons and neutrons. Without this arrangement the electric charge carried by the protons would be disruptive of the atomic nucleus."

NEW CHART READY

Vice-President Georgia Gecht has prepared another chart for use by Urantia Book students. It is entitled: "Evolution of Non-spirited forces-energies-powers" and comprises two sheets. It will be distributed at regular assemblies for study soon.

AGONDONTER: An ascender from isolated world. One "who can believe without seeing, persevere when isolated, and triumph over insuperable difficulties even when alone". Page 579:1, The Urantia Book.

A MARRIAGE ANNIVERSARY AND A RESURRECTION

In the past two weeks, two events have touched the hearts of our Urantia family.

THE ANNIVERSARY

On October 12th, Mr. and Mrs. Curtis Steen celebrated their 46th wedding anniversary. In honor of this event, Julia Fenderson, our faithful secretary, at the October 11th meeting, presented each one in the Urantia Society Group with a printed copy of Bill Sadler's message to the First Urantia Society of Oklahoma on November 1958. These she bought complete with a folder from his society in Chicago. About 18 or 20 people were present and we very much appreciated this gesture. Also our secretary brought a cake, candy mints and flowers. The cake was decorated all in blue and white and contained the words "46th Anniversary, Helen and Curtis". The decoration was symbolic with little doves and the concentric circles of the Urantia Society.

THE RESURRECTION

It was with mixed feelings that we learned a few days later that Curtis Steen, our host for the meetings of the Urantia work in this area for nearly 20 years, had suddenly left us to begin that adventurous journey through the spiritual worlds to that final and glorious destination in his Father's House in Paradise.

On Saturday October 17th we attended the memorial service in honor of his resurrection. Julia Fenderson read a beautiful Urantia service that Bill Sadler had written for use in Chicago. Fred Squires read the Beatitudes as written in the Urantia Book. The Pastoral Symphony from the Messiah was played during a quiet meditation. Then he gave a brief resume of Mr. Steen's life followed by the reading of I Corinthians 13 on charity which was Mr. Steen's favorite Bible passage. The service was concluded with an affirmation of our faith in a spiritual resurrection three days after death as it was with Jesus. It was a real blessing to attend for the first time a service among people who clearly evidenced their belief in the resurrection.

EXCERPTS FROM LETTERS

About "The Urantia Paper":

"The Urantia Paper is well written and informative, but more important it is permeated with the spirit of the teachings of the Urantia Book. The tone of it is most inspiring." Carolyn Kendall, Wheeling, Ill.

"Thanks for sending us a copy of The Urantia Paper. Our group enjoyed it very much and we would be pleased to receive future copies". Helen Butler, Oklahoma.

"Your letter and "Urantia Paper" received today for which please accept my thanks. I would be glad to follow your activities in the L.A. area. I regret that my remoteness puts so great a gap between us.".....My foremost concern and interest is to get on the right path and follow it. To dedicate the balance of my earth existence to the great work is my aim and goal and find that this may possibly be real purpose for the ground work already nearly completed. My place he was given the name of 'Point Dawn' when the first work was started twelve years ago to convert this piece of wilderness into a retreat. If this be the purpose for which I was guided it appears it will in the coming year be the retreat for other Christ seekers where they may be grouped in small numbers for resident study on the basis of seminars and discussion circles in the ideal environment and atmosphere of the most natural and beautiful mountain forest surroundings.....Towards this end I have built several cabins and other facilities for retreatant students to spend from a few weeks to several months as need or opportunity permit. All would be on a strictly non-profit basis of course". Paolo Grosso, Oroville, Calif.

GOVERNING COMMITTEE MEETS

The Governing committee of FUSLA met October 11th., in regular quarterly session. The following Fusla members were named to serve on committees until the next annual assembly; Membership: Fred Squires, Mrs. Rosette Davison, Bruce Davison, Mrs. Elva Larrabee, and Miss Barbara Charlwood. Education: Mrs. Olive Cooley, Scott Forsythe, Miss Doris George, Bert King, Mrs. Barbara King and Benedict Schiavo. Also a new order of Urantia Books was authorized. These books will be sold for the benefit of our society. They will be kept at 78 No. Grand Ave., and are available whenever you wish to purchase one for yourself or to sell to some one else. The paper's new name was selected at this meeting as well. AGONDONTER.

PRESIDENT'S ADDRESS TO THE TRIENNIAL DELEGATE
ASSEMBLY OF THE URANTIA BROTHERHOOD

FROM CHICAGO:

GREETINGS TO YOU - the Delegates, Alternates, Councilors, and all Urantians - who are privileged to attend this first meeting of the TRIENNIAL DELEGATE ASSEMBLY. This is a historical occasion. What we do and say here will long be a matter of record in the archives of the Urantia Brotherhood, and I doubt not that future generations will look back with longing to this year 1964 and wish they could have been with us, just as we sometimes look back to the times of Jesus on earth and wish we could have walked with Him through Galilee, could have sat under the trees with Him, listening first-hand to His supernal teachings. Our coming together here today will be an experience we will long cherish, and I hope we will meet the challenges which it presents with courage, devotion, and above all, with unity of purpose.

It has been an honor to have had the privilege of serving as President of the Urantia Brotherhood for the past one and one-half years. And I wish to extend my sincere thanks to the other officers and administrators who have served with me during this period. I must here make special mention of the splendid work performed by the Program Committee for this Assembly - Alvin Kuliske, Marian Rowley and Edith Cook - as well as the services of our fine secretary, Mrs. Anna Rawson. They have given unstintingly of their time in the preparation of the many details incident to this Assembly.

I am thrilled by the opportunity to preside on this auspicious occasion. The Delegates and Alternates present in this room today are also thrilled, I am sure, to have been selected to represent their various Societies at the first meeting of the Assembly. Upon you rests a solemn responsibility.

It is our burden to bring life on this planet up to a new level, which we can and will do when we sincerely become imbued with the idea that we are ambassadors of a heavenly kingdom just as surely as were the twelve apostles who followed Jesus. Those twelve men were so inspired by Jesus' life and teachings that they went forth and turned the whole world upside down. I pray we will do likewise.

During my short tenure as President of the Urantia Brotherhood I have expounded on two thesis: first, that we become living prophets of the Fatherhood of God and the Brotherhood of Man, and second, that we remember to subordinate the Urantia Book to the service of God.

Perhaps we should take a moment now to listen once again to Jesus' admonition to his apostles during one of his profound discussions on religion: "I admonish you to give up the practice of quoting the prophets of old, and instead aspire to become living prophets and spiritual heroes of the coming kingdom."

What is a prophet? Webster says a prophet is:

1. The proclaimer of a revelation
2. One who speaks for another, especially for God
3. An inspired revealer, interpreter, or spokesman
4. One whose office it is to deliver a message.

President's address cont'd

What a message we have to deliver: We have in our hands a veritable El Dorado of riches. Only a handful of men and women on Urantia are so fortunate, so privileged, as we are.

I am not too much interested in the number of Urantia Books you dispense, but I am tremendously interested in the souls you will lead into the kingdom by your own proclamation of the dynamic truths about God and his universe which Jesus has revealed to you; in how you are feeding the hungry souls that you meet "as you pass by".

To emphasize my point I want to paraphrase a statement made by our first President in his report to the Brotherhood at the end of his three-year tenure: We must be careful not to confuse primary and secondary loyalties. Our primary spiritual loyalty is to the Universal Father, and to Him alone. When we encounter some spiritually hungry brother our first objective is to bring him closer to his heavenly father. This we may attempt to do with or without the book. All things are secondary and subordinate to the acquisition of this one prize; the realization of sonship with God. The book itself is not an end; it is a most important means to an end. If the Urantia Book becomes mandatory in our ministry, then we have truly subordinated to it our first and primary objective and purpose, as Urantians, which is: the service of God.

But you cannot reveal God to those who do not seek for him. Man must become hungry for truth as a result of the experience of living or he must desire to know God as the result of contact with the lives of those who are acquainted with the divine Father before another human being can act as the means of leading such a fellow mortal to the Father in heaven. If we know God, our real business on earth is so to live as to permit the Father to reveal himself in our lives and thus will all God-seeking persons see the Father and ask for our help in finding out more about the God who in this manner finds expression in our lives. (1466.3)

When someone asks us, as the apostles asked Jesus, what is your religion? What do you believe? we will joyfully respond:

I believe that God is my Father.

I believe that I am His son.

I believe that all men are my brothers and that I am to serve them.

I believe that this world is but a vestibule, a shake-down cruise, a testing, for my eternal adventure.

I believe in the progressive advancement of my soul within the divine Kingdom

I believe that Jesus came to show us the way to the Father, for He said: "I am the way, the truth and the life".

I believe that I am an ambassador in my Father's kingdom.

I believe that some day I will attain Paradise and stand face to face with my Father in heaven.

I believe that my eternal life will take me into worlds not yet born where I shall have the sublime privilege of teaching about the Father the truths which his Beloved Son has revealed to me during his lifetime on this world.

I believe that I must so live my life that all men will be attracted to me and be inspired to ask me concerning the Father. Jesus said: "It is not so much by the words you speak as by the lives you live, that men will know that you have been with me".

I believe that the Spirit within me will show me the way, for my religion assures me that "at every crossroad in the forward struggle, the Spirit of Truth will always say: 'This is the way.'"

My dear friends, please bear in mind that good humor and the smile of happiness are among the most powerful and influential of the human assets of religious propagation.....Let us, therefore, be happy and valiant soldiers of the circles.

E. L. Christensen,
President
Urantia Brotherhood.



AGONDONTER

"But as ascending man reaches inward and Paradiseward for the God experience, he will likewise be reaching outward and spaceward for an energy understanding of the material cosmos". Page 1138, The Urantia Book.

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CALENDER OF COMING EVENTS

Regular informal assemblies for study:

January 10th., Sunday, 78 N. Grand Ave., Pasadena. 2:00 P.M.
D. Hayes Schlundt

"The Holy Land in color slides with commentary by Mr. Schlundt, world traveler. (2) Georgia Gecht: The Evolution of Forces and Energies".

January 24th., and February 14th., (Same as above, except Helen Steen will give her talks on "Angels and other Beings stationed throughout the Universe", replaced by Mr. Schlundt's talk on January 10th)

January 16th., Saturday, 2034 Stewart, Santa Monica, 8:00 P.M. Georgia Gecht,
(1) Cosmology (2) Inspirational Subjects.

February 6th and 20th., (Same as above).

January 22nd., Friday, 317 N. Orange Dr., Los Angeles, 8:00 P.M. Marie Culbertson "The Jesus Papers... a guide to daily living"
(2) Question - Answer period.

February 12th., (Same as above).

SPECIAL WINTER SEMINAR -- Ruth Burton, M.A., C.L.O.T. teaching 18 meetings.
February and March, 1965.

SUBJECT: "The Jesus Papers". Credit will be given to those who take this seminar and pass the examinations in connection with it for the certified leader and/or Ordained Teacher Degrees awarded by Urantia Brotherhood School, Chicago, Illinois. The course may also be audited (for no credit) on an occasional or regular basis.

....Specifics such as cost, date, place, location and materials to bring will be announced in a special bulletin to members of FUSLA and to those on our mailing list in the Southern California Area.

URANTIA TRUTHS TRAVEL THE AIR WAVES

Mr. William Burton King, Mrs. Barbara King and Miss Doris George have begun their exciting "Question and Answer Man" show on station KBLA, 1490 on the dial, at 8:30 Saturday mornings. This show, which they write, edit and take part in themselves is their own private undertaking and is not directly tied to the work of our Urantia Society or of the Urantia Brotherhood. It is a great joy, nonetheless, to hear the dynamic power filled words of the Urantia Book read over the air waves for all to hear. Mr. King does not cite his references (except when quoting the Bible). So he is doing what is fondly referred to as "bootlegging" the Urantia teachings, with passages from the Book to reply to questioners. In the format of his program he offers to answer listeners questions on any matter in the field of religion, metaphysics or theology. (Questions may be addressed to P.O. Box 41302, Los Angeles, Calif. --90041)

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"THE ATTRIBUTES OF GOD and GOD'S EVERYWHERE-NESS", A Meditation of
Benedict Schiavo--(The Urantia Book, paper 3, page 44)

...There is but one Presence and one Power in our Universe. There is no contention of one person with another, good deeds are expressed by every one connected with our Universal Father. There is no contention of one person with another, because we stand on ground consecrated to peace and brotherly love. We consecrate our thoughts, words and acts in loyal service to God.

When we are in tune with our Universal Father we become aware that there is no lack in our Universe, as we are conscious of the one living substance as the reality of all things. We are ever unified with the one eternal, ever-existing substance out of which all things are formed and out of which our good comes into expression. We acknowledge God's substance becoming manifest as our abundant prosperity.

As students of the Universal Father we reconsecrate and rededicate ourselves to the awakening and quickening of the consciousness of eternal life. We unify ourselves, spirit, soul and body with the Universal Father and we are eternally alive. God's free-flowing, harmonizing healing life is the eternal life of our being. Our Universal Father is giving us an understanding heart. Omnipresence; God is everywhere present. The constant presence of God. God is equally present everywhere.

Omnipotence; God is the one and only Power; The all powerful one God. Omniscience; The all knowing all perceiving mind of God.

MR. & MRS. BURTON TO ARRIVE FROM CHICAGO FOR THE WINTER

...Mr. Bob Burton and Mrs. Ruth Burton will be arriving here in Pasadena to stay at the home of Mr. Burton's brother by mid-January (about the 15th). They plan to stay on in our sunny climate through March. This is partly for weather and health reasons, but it means much more to us Urantia Book students. We are gladdened to know that for the first time outside Chicago it will be possible now to take a regular minor subject as it is given in The Urantia Brotherhood School and to receive credit for it toward the degree of certified teacher or Ordained Teacher from the School.

...Having the Burtons among us on an informal basis would be pleasure enough, but to receive Mrs. Burton as an Emissary Teacher from the school in Chicago is both a pleasure and a gift of the greatest value. We can truthfully say that the finest possible help is being sent to us who truly hunger for a better knowledge and deeper understanding of the Urantia Book and its truths. Mrs. Burton will be teaching an approximately eight weeks seminar on Part IV of The Urantia Book and all who are interested will be welcome to attend. The cost and details of time and place are yet to be announced, but it will be during February and March.

"FREELY HAVE YOU RECEIVED, FREELY GIVE". Jesus, page 2053:2

...Mr. Bob Burton has become an example of the above saying of Christ Michael as AGONDONTER may verify. A few weeks ago the Pasadena Study Group received a package from Mr. Burton. It contained enough copies for all of our group of Bill Brehio's compilation of the Bible passages quoted in the Urantia Book. The Book frequently quotes the Bible but never cites chapter and verse. When making his monumental French translation (a copy of which may be obtained at 78 N. Grand, Pasadena). Monsieur Jacques Weiss tracked down the various quotations and cited the references in footnotes to the text of the French Edition. Bill Brehio of Chicago's Orvonton Urantia Society translated those references and transposed the page numbers to those of the English original edition. Mr. Burton then had mimeographed copies made of these references (listed by their English page numbers) and made them available to our study group free of charge. He has offered to send more if we need them.

...May AGONDONTER extend the genuine gratitude of all the recipients of this gift to our friend Mr. Bob Burton. Any one interested in receiving a copy of the Bible references who does not already have one please contact the paper and steps will be taken to obtain one for you.

THE LIVES WE LIVE - (Excerpts from the Secretary-General of the Urantia Brotherhood, Marion Rowley's outstanding collection of quotations from the Urantia Book)

Text:

"And it will not be so much by the words you speak as by the lives you live that men will know you have been with me and have learned of the realities of the kingdom." Paper 140, Ordination, p.1569, #5.

In other words, to use a nice switch, don't do as I say - do as I do. And how many of us could honestly say that without flinching? For, of course, this is the most difficult thing in the world to do. We know in our minds what we ought to do, what is the right thing to do -- but so often we fail to put into practice the things we know we should do. We accept the truths of the Book intellectually, but we don't use them in our lives.

- A. There are many places in the Jesus papers, in particular, which emphasize the fact that it is the life you live which is important, not so much the words you speak. We are told again and again to pay more attention to what Jesus did, how he lives - than to what he taught. Listen to some of these comments.

When you study the career of the Master, as concerns prayer or any other feature of the religious life, look not so much for what he taught as for what he did. p. 2088, #6 P. 196, Faith of Jesus.

You may preach a religion about Jesus, but, perforce, you must live the religion of Jesus. p. 2091, #11 p. 196, Faith of Jesus.

....Many times, when they did make sure to remember what the Master said, they were almost certain to forget what he did not say. But they slowly assimilated his teaching because Jesus was all that he taught. What they could not gain from his verbal instruction, they gradually acquired by living with him. P. 140, Ordination, P. 1584, #4,5

...Jesus to 11 apostles on Mount of Olives just before ascension:
"Love men with the love wherewith I have loved you and serve your fellow mortals even as I have served you. By the spirit fruits of your lives impel souls to believe the truth that man is a son of God, and that all men are brethren." Paper 193, Final Appearances and Ascension. P.2057, #4

There are many more quotes of this nature.

- B. How? How can we do this -- this business of living to reveal that we know the Father? How can we live so that we will impress other people with the fact that we have something that's important -- that they might be interested in -- that they might like for themselves?

One of the things that will help is to try to co-operate with the Spirit.

...The Spirit never drives, only leads. If you are a willing learner, if you want to attain spirit levels and reach divine heights, if you sincerely desire to reach the eternal goal, then the divine Spirit will gently and lovingly lead you along the pathway of sonship and spiritual progress. Every step you take must be one of willingness, intelligent and cheerful co-operation. The domination of the Spirit is never tainted with coercion nor compromised by compulsion. P.34, Local Universe Mother Spirit. P.381, #5.

C. RESULTS

If you are really, honestly, sincerely trying to live the faith you have -- the belief in the Fatherhood of God and the Brotherhood of man -- then if you are really trying, how does it show -- what are the results?

...Jesus to the apostles: "While you cannot observe the divine spirit at work in your minds, there is a practical method of discovering the degree to which you have yielded the control of your soul powers to the teaching and guidance of this indwelling spirit of the heavenly Father, and that is the degree of your love for your fellow man. This spirit of the Father partakes of the love of the Father, and as it dominates man, it unfailingly leads in the directions of divine worship and loving regard for one's fellows." P. 146, First Preaching Tour, p. 1642, #3

Excerpts continued-

EXCERPTS:

The consciousness of the spirit domination of a human life is presently attended by an increasing exhibition of the characteristic of the Spirit in the life reactions of such a spirit-led mortal, "for the fruits of the spirit are love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, meekness, and temperance." P.34, Local Universe Mother Spirit, P.381, #7.

Jesus said our only business is to reveal God to the individual man-- to lead this same man to become son-conscious and then to present this same man to God as a faith son. (p.1594) You don't need complicated theology. You don't even need a book for that. All you need is to live so as to reveal the Father in your lives.

Jesus portrayed the profound surety of the God-knowing mortal when he said: "To a God-knowing kingdom believer, what does it matter if all things earthly crash?" Temporal securities are vulnerable, but spiritual sureties are impregnable. When the flood tides of human adversity, selfishness, cruelty, hate, malice, and jealousy beat about the mortal soul, you may rest in the assurance that there is one inner bastion, the citadel of the spirit, which is absolutely unassailable; at least this is true of every human being who has dedicated the keeping of his soul to the indwelling spirit of the eternal God.

AGONDONTER
78 Grand Ave.,
Pasadena, California.



Polly Parker.
101 47 Densmore Ave.
Sepulveda
Calif.

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"Our business is to be ambassadors of a Spiritual government on high, and we must not immediately concern ourselves with aught but the representation of the will and character of the divine Father who stands at the head of the government whose credentials we bear".....The Urantia Book P.1565:7.

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CALENDAR OF COMING EVENTS

Regular informal assemblies for study:

Temporarily discontinued (all 3) during the term of Mrs. Burton's extension course sessions..January 11, 1965 through March 13, 1965.

ATTENTION STUDY GROUP TEACHERS:-

From now on announcements will appear in AGONDONTER of your groups activities if you wish.
Please submit complete details by MARCH 1st., and the 1st. of each month thereafter - (deadline for inclusion in each edition will be the 5th. of each month.)
Announcements should cover the period from approximately the 15th. to the 15th. of the following month, as it is our aim to publish about the middle of each month.
Information to be included should be.. 1. Dates, 2. Places, 3. Times, 4. Subjects, 5. Teachers or Leaders.
Please send your data to: AGONDONTER, 78 No. Grand Ave., Pasadena, California. 91103

Special Winter Seminar, led by Ruth Burton, B.A., M.A., O.T.
Subject:- "Harmony of the Gospels - The Urantia Book and the New Testament".
(an extension course of the Urantia Brotherhood School, Chicago Ill. - for which 1/2 unit of credit is available towards the degrees of certified leader and Ordained Teacher).

Classes: 1 - Sunday afternoons, 1 P.M. to 3 P.M., 2032 Stewart, Santa Monica (Ex 4-2623, the home of Mrs. Georgia W. Gecht).
2 - Monday Evenings, 7:30 to 9:30 P.M., 78 No. Grand Ave., Pasadena (The home of the Steens - SY 3-8971).
3 - Thursday Evenings, 7:30 to 9:30 P.M., 317 N. Orange Dr. Los Angeles (the home of Maria and Ward Culbertson. WE 6-0011.)

Graduation: An evening of fun.....^{Sunday} ~~Saturday~~, March ¹⁴ ~~13~~, 1965 - ²⁻⁵ 8:00 P.M.
a Brotherhood Party at which certificates, making the successful completion of the class and passing of the final examination, will be given out at the BEICHER'S, 2215 Canyon Road, Arcadia, 355-0818. Everyone is welcome, members, guests and newcomers.

Footnote from page 2076:6 The Urantia Book, "Materialism".
"At the time of this writing (the 1930's) the worst of the materialistic age is over; the day of a better understanding is already beginning to dawn. The higher minds of the scientific world are no longer wholly materialistic in their philosophy.....".

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A NEW WAVE OF THOUGHT by SCOTT FORSYTHE

In the November 7, 1964 issue of the Saturday Review there appeared a most interesting article entitled, "Can we learn from other planets?". The article is a production of the fertile intellect of the eminent British Cosmologist and theoretical philosopher, Fred Hoyle. It provides an excellent representation of the revolutionary wave of new thought currently taking place in the scientific community. In recent years it has become more and more apparent a drastic reorientation of scientific thought and philosophy is taking place. Less than a decade ago it would have been considered scientifically heretical to speak of a plan to the universe and other intelligent life in its infinite domains. I will let the following quote from the article articulate the point I am attempting to convey.

"I am going to make one big hypothesis - a religious hypothesis - that the emergence of intelligent life is not a meaningless accident. But I am not going to follow orthodox religions by presuming that I know what the meaning is. Intelligent life is such a remarkable phenomenon to emerge out of the basic physical laws that some connection seems implied; i.e., some correlation between laws and consequences of the laws - what in common terms we would call a plan. Let us see how much of the plan we can discover."

THE SPECIAL ROLE OF OUR BROTHERHOOD by
FIELD REPRESENTATIVE - MEREDITH J. SPRUNGER, B.A., B.D.

The Urantia Brotherhood is a unique fellowship. Although it is a Philosophic-religious organization, it is not a sectarian group nor is it a new religion. The Brotherhood is composed of people of all faiths who believe the Urantia Book has a message for all of the religions of the world. It is essentially a leavening organization.

In order to escape the pitfalls of institutionalized religious movements, the Urantia Brotherhood attempts to keep its organizational aspects simple and free. There has been a concerted attempt to disassociate the Brotherhood from most of the formal functions of institutional religion such as conducting worship services and administering rites and sacraments. The activities of the Brotherhood are basically those of education and fellowship.

Members of the Brotherhood generally work in their own local religious organizations seeking to augment the loving fellowship and prophetic vision of these groups thus striving for the growth and advancement of such religious institutions.

In the event that members of a local Society of the Brotherhood should find it impossible to worship in the religious organizations of their community, it would be hoped that any church, synagogue, or other religious groups formed to take care of these formal religious functions would be completely separate from the Brotherhood Society. In this way the Urantia Brotherhood will always remain separate from institutionalized religion maintaining an ecumenical, non-sectarian atmosphere in which people of all faiths will feel free to fellowship.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT -

The editors wish to thank the many cooperating readers who have been freely sending their dollars to keep AGONDONTER coming. We feel that you should be kept posted on these matters: AGONDONTER costs approximately 15¢ a copy including postage (or 10¢ in actual printing costs). Roughly \$2.00 takes care of a years copies (12). Thanks again for your support and encouragement. Your suggestions and recommendations will be always welcome.

VICE PRESIDENT FELLED BY ALLERGIES -

Please pray for the well being of Mrs. Georgia W. Gecht, who has been forced to stay close to home due to smog allergies.

We all owe a tremendous debt of gratitude to the spirit government for leading us to a teacher like Mrs. Gecht whose devoted, determined and spiritized mind has helped increase the light of understanding for so many of us in FUSLA.

May her group in Santa Monica, which she is still able to teach, continue to profit and grow through her ministration of spiritual truth.

ADDITION TO THE MAILING LIST FOR AGONDONTER -

If you would like yourself or some one else added to the AGONDONTER mailing list please send the full name and address (and, if you wish, \$2.00 for costs) to Mrs. Lenore Eicher, membership chairman. 2215 Canyon Rd. Arcadia, California. 91006.

MRS. RONETTE DAVISON'S VISIT TO IDAHO -

Mrs. Davison went north at year's end for an extended visit with her nephew, Governor Robert Smylie of Idaho. Word has reached AGONDONTER that she is enjoying an interest-filled and stimulating vacation at the Governor's mansion.

LATELY AT 78 NORTH GRAND ----- by Helen K. Steen

On Sunday, January 10th. many of us were fortunate in seeing Mr. Hays Schlundt's color slides of the Holy Land.

Mr. Schlundt is an artist and his pictures revealed this. Also, he had trekked far off the beaten path in order to show pictures of unusual and seldom seen places. We were all most grateful to Mr. Schlundt for his fine lecture and slides, and we are looking forward to a talk by him on "Jesus as presented in the Koran", when he returns from his current world travels some time in March.

"LAYOUT" OF THE ISLE OF PARADISE by Mr. Wm. Burton King

On Sunday, January 24th. the Pasadena study group had a guest speaker, Mr. Wm. Burton King, who gave a lecture on space. To illustrate his talk, Mr. King used a set of 15 charts which he designed and painted himself. The charts give the general idea of the "layout" of the Isle of Paradise, and the universes, etc, in space, and are intended to present the subject in as clear and simple a manner as possible. Mr. King plans to reproduce the charts in 8 1/2 x 11 inch size, and make them available to those who are interested in obtaining a set.

LETTER TO THE EDITORS -

It was very nice to receive AGONDONTER as I appreciate contact with others studying the Urantia teachings, and it is especially nice to hear about people I know and what they are doing.

I enjoyed Chicago and the people there. Just wish I could have spent more time talking with Dr. Sadler. The group here in Beaver is small - only 8 to 12 people actively involved, but there are 17 books in the immediate area.

I was able to attend a number of art classes over the Texas-Oklahoma Panhandle areas. These people in these classes have heard about Urantia teachings from their instructor, Dord Fitz, who is a good friend of mine, and also from time to time, I've been able to discuss Urantia with them. Through Dord's efforts the past several years, these people are all searching and looking for newer and better meanings, and a better grasp of Reality.

For the past year or year and a half these people have heard little bits of Urantia philosophy through Dord. (He is the person who brought the book to my attention.

A number of books have been requested and a study group for the area is being formed to meet on Saturday nights in a little red school house near Arnett, Oklahoma, which has been converted into an art center for these people.

There is the possibility of another group forming in Amarillo, Texas but nothing definite yet. It is certainly going to keep me hopping to lead these groups.

Please give my greetings to everyone. Certainly wish that I could occasionally visit out there.....

Paul Barby
Box 923
Beaver, Oklahoma. 73932



AGONDONTER

"Your revelation of truth must be so enhanced by passing through your personal experience that new beauty and actual spiritual gains will be disclosed to all who behold your spiritual fruits and in consequence thereof are led to glorify the Father who is in heaven". The Urantia Book, P. 1917:4.

Volume 1 Number 7 March 1965
Published by First Urantia Society of Los Angeles, 78 N. Grand Ave., Pasadena, California. SY 3-8971.

CALENDER OF COMING EVENTS

Beginning in April regular assemblies for study are to resume. March being the last month during which the extension course is conducted by Mr. Burton in lieu of our regular meetings.

Details regarding topics and verification of times and addresses for meetings may be obtained by calling the hostess/teacher of each group.

SANTA MONICA, 1st and 3rd Saturday at 8:00 P.M., Mrs. Georgia W. Gecht, 2034 Seward, Santa Monica, California. EX 4-2623

PASADENA, 2nd and 4th Sunday at 2:00 P.M., Mrs. Helen K. Steen, 78 N. Grand Ave., Pasadena, California. SY 3-8971.

LOS ANGELES, 2nd and 4th Friday at 8:00 P.M., Mrs. Maria Culbertson, 317 No. Orange Drive, Los Angeles, California. WE 6-0011.

HOME STUDY GROUP

For the past year, unknown to many of us, a few members of our Pasadena study group have been meeting Tuesday mornings at 10:00 o'clock to study the Urantia Book. They felt the need for more time with the Book. One Tuesday they meet at Mrs. Lenore Eicher's, at 2215 Canyon Rd., Arcadia, and the next one they meet at Mrs. Olive Cooley's, at 6736 Golden West Ave., Arcadia.

Mr. Fred Squires, who was a member of the group that received the Urantia Book, and who has studied it for many years was asked to lead the class. The studies are based on the early days of Jesus life. The class is open and visitors are welcome.

MOSES ON MOUNT SINAI AND SEISMOLOGY by SCOTT FORSYTHE

Confirmation of the Urantia Book comes from many and varied sources. In the past this reporter has sighted as confirmation sources the sciences of eugenics, astronomy and anthropology, and now he may do the same with the science of seismology, the study of earthquakes.

In the first paragraph on page #1054, the Urantia Book offers an interesting explanation as to why the Hebrews believed God spoke to Moses on Mount Sinai. On page #187 of the book Earthquake: Discoveries in Seismology by L. Don and Florence Leet (L. Don Leet is chairman of the division of geological Sciences at Harvard University and Director of the Harvard Seismographic Station, while Florence Leet is his wife and co-worker) there appears a remarkable similar explanation of the incident described in the Bible concerning Mount Sinai.

The Urantia Book states as follows: "UP to about 2000 B.C., Mount Sinai was intermittently active as a volcano, occasional eruptions occurring as late as the time of the sojourn of the Israelites in this region. The fire and smoke, together with the thunderous detonations associated with the eruptions of this volcanic mountain, all impressed and awed the bedouins of the surrounding regions and caused them greatly to fear Yahweh. This Spirit of Mount Horeb later became the God of the Hebrew Semites, and they eventually believed him to be supreme over all other Gods."

To be continued...Page 2

AGONDONTER: An ascender from isolated world. One "who can believe without seeing, persevere when isolated, and triumph over insuperable difficulties even when alone". Page 579:1, The Urantia Book.

MOSES ON MOUNT SINAI - - - continued

Dr. Leet concludes the following: "The oldest accounts of earthquakes are found in the bible. Several are mentioned in the Old Testament. About 1606 B.C. volcanic activity accompanied by earthquakes rocked the Holy Land when God gave the law to Moses. This is recorded in the writings of Exodus 19: 18-19: 'And Mount Sinai was wrapped in smoke, because the Lord descended upon it in fire; and the smoke of it went up like the smoke of a kiln (an oven), and the whole mountain quaked greatly. And as the sound of the trumpet grew louder and louder, Moses spoke, and God answered him in Thunder'."

DO WE SERVE GOD OR SATAN? by Wm. B. King

In paper #53 of the Urantia writings ps. 601-620, we read a detailed account of the Lucifer rebellion and the present status and results of that rebellion on our planet.

May I call your attention to the latter part of p. 610-3, "...neither can he (Caligastia) draw near to their souls to tempt or corrupt them UNLESS they really desire to be cursed with his wicked presence".

This raises the question, "How does Caligastia DRAW NEAR to a person today? We find the answer to this question in the Bible, John 14:30, "...for the Prince of this world cometh, and hath nothing in me".

When the apostate planetary prince came to Jesus, he found no mental pattern in this Son of God, through which he (Caligastia) could work.

At the time of the rebellion, Lucifer and his followers developed a pattern of thinking and reasoning that was actually contrary to the pattern of the Kingdom of Heaven, and since that day those rebels (including Caligastia) have been unable to work through the pattern of the Kingdom of Heaven. For the same reason they could not work through the mind of Christ because he had a divine mental pattern of reasoning and thinking.

Again we read in paper #53, page 610-5, "But even so, no fallen spirit ever did have the power to invade the minds or harass the souls of the children of God. Neither Satan nor Caligastia could ever touch or approach the faith sons of God; faith is an effective armour against sin and iniquity. It is true: 'He who is born of God keeps himself, and the wicked one touches him not.' (1 John 3:7-9)

All those who have developed a faith pattern of thinking and reasoning are Sons of God. They are the "Born of God" who keep themselves because they have developed their thinking and reasoning according to the laws of the faith pattern of the Kingdom of Heaven.

No child is biologically born with this faith pattern...it must be developed by the individual, that is exactly what Jesus meant when he said, "Except ye repent, ye shall perish". (Luke 13:3,5).

Each individual born on a rebellious planet must overcome the measure of the Lucifer pattern he or she has within himself or herself. Until such a time that each person develops the thinking and reasoning pattern according to the laws of faith in the Deity of God the Father, they are more or less subjected to the influence of the powers of evil.

Remember, Jesus told us how to free ourselves from the influence of the Lucifer rebellion. "Except ye repent, ye shall perish".

LETTER TO THE EDITOR:

Dear Ones: I have received several "Agondonters" and appreciate your remembering me. I had always wanted to come to one of your meetings but health has prevented. I had been so thrilled at the illustrated descriptions given by Mrs. Gecht at Harmony Grove where I attended her lecture. I purchased a URANTIA BOOK there after and have been loaning it around to those interested. I am sure there must be many more in the area who would be interested. I have not been able to attend the group formed by friends of mine and perhaps it might be better attended if it were listed in your letter so that others in this area who study Urantia might get acquainted with them.

Mr. & Mrs. Robert Wold are at home, 10052 Duffrin, on the 2nd. Monday of each month to welcome those interested in the study of Urantia. Those in the Riverside Arlington area may phone 689-4119 for directions to their country home. There is no teacher for this group except the book, and all those meeting have been seekers interested in learning and applying greater truths and making them available to others. My best wishes and blessings will remain with you always.

Appreciatively,

Wilma Shad.

NEWSPAPER ARTICLE URGES JEW TO RECONSIDER CHRIST - from the L.A. Times
religious section of December 6, 1964 by Dan L. Thorpp.

Jews should take another look at Jesus, which they would find "one of Israel's noblest teachers". Dr. Maurice N. Eisendrath, President of the Union of American Hebrew Congregations, has reiterated in one chapter, "Jesus-Man of My People", in a newly-published book, CAN FAITH SURVIVE.

On Nov. 17, 1963, he referred to this thesis before the biennial assembly of the UAHG, and aroused "a violent reaction."

"I was particularly distressed by the reaction of Rabbis" he said - reared in our Liberal Jewish tradition. "The intelligent laity seems more open to such a suggestion." His contention, he holds, "is not really new", and he lists the towering rabbinical figures of the past who have shared it. He maintained that it is Pauline Christianity, the religion "about Jesus, not the religion of Jesus," that Jews find historically unacceptable. This religion "offends against Jews and truth. Jesus was "a Pharisee of the Pharisees". He feasted with them and worshipped at their side. He preached in their synagogues and learned their law and to these very Pharisees He gave the solemn assurance "I am come not to destroy but to fulfill the law."

Jesus had quarrels with the Pharisees, he added, but "so had Amos and Isaiah, and Jeremiah battled and challenged their co-religionists.... "So profound a spiritual being as Jesus, to whom religion was expressed in the intimate relationship of man to God, could not but have grown impatient with much of the minutiae of the law." "Surely" he added "there was nothing unjewish or treasonable in His denunciation of the pompous Temple piety, or in His driving of the money changers from its midst".

He did not hate His people, the Rabbi asserted. Dr. Eisendrath argued that "if Christians would recapture the message of Jesus himself they will have to cast aside those doctrines and dogmas and creeds which have concealed the lowly son of Israel".

"And for the Jew he went on "the inescapable verdict of Jesus' Jewishness is like-wise fraught with limitless possibilities." "Jewish life can be richly enhanced by his restoration to a proper place among our Jewish teachers and sages... We can ill afford to relinquish so sublime a character either for ourselves or for the inspiration of our children..." "Nor do I mean a perfunctory gesture of passive recognition, but an active utilization of his outstanding personality as an impetus to a more profound understanding of our Jewish faith.. "What conceivable objection could there be -- other than long-smouldering prejudice, however justified it may have been.-- to including the majestic sentences of the Sermon on the Mount among other post-biblical readings in our synagogues? "Are not some of the down-to-earth, homely parables of Jesus of inestimable value as moral instruction for our children and our youth? "Why... must we put ethical and spiritual blinkers on our religious-school children by depriving them of the exalted teaching contained in the tale of the Good Samaritan?... I would teach such moving stories and utterances diligently unto our children along with those of Moses".

Here was a Jew, one of the noblest, most loyal and faithful Jews who ever lived, a Jew who combined in his majestic personality all that was best and most enchanting in Israel -- the eternal people whose child he was".

THE URANTIA BOOK SPEAKS OF THE JEWS

P. 1340:2:9 "They could hardly regard with favor the teachings of one who did not hesitate to clash with the dogmas which they regarded as having been ordained by Father Abraham himself. Moses had given them their law and they would not compromise".

P. 1913:2 "The Master realized that the rejection of the spiritual concept of the Messiah, the determination to cling persistently and blindly to the material mission of the expected deliverer, would presently bring the Jews in direct conflict with the powerful Roman armies, and that such a contest could only result in the final and complete overthrow of the Jewish Nation."

P. 1906: 1 and 2 (Jesus' last discourse) "My Father has long dealt in mercy with His people. Generation after generation have we sent our prophets to teach and warn them, and generation after generation have they killed these heaven-sent teachers. And now do you willful high priests and stubborn rulers go right on doing this same thing. As Herod brought about the death of John, you likewise now make ready to destroy the Son of Man."

"As long as there is a chance that the Jews will turn to my Father and seek salvation, the God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob will keep his hands in mercy outstretched toward you; but when you have once filled up your cup of impenitence, and when once you have finally rejected my Father's mercy, this nation will be left to its own counsels, and it shall speedily come to an inglorious end. This people was called to become the light of the world, to show forth the spiritual glory of a God-knowing race, but you have so far departed from the fulfillment of your divine privileges that your leaders are about to commit

the supreme folly of all the ages in that they are on the verge of finally rejecting the gift of God to all men and for all ages -- the revelation of the love of the Father in heaven for all his creatures on earth."

P. 1882:3 (Jesus on Palm Sunday on the brow of Olivet) "O, Jerusalem, if you had only known, even you, at least in this your day, the things which belong to your peace, and which you could so freely have had! But now are these glories about to be hid from your eyes. You are about to reject the Son of Peace and turn your backs upon the gospel of salvation. The days will soon come upon you wherein your enemies will cast a trench around about you and lay siege to you on every side; they shall utterly destroy you, insomuch that not one stone shall be left upon another. And all this shall befall you because you knew not the time of your divine visitation. You are about to reject the Gift of God, and all men will reject you".

P. 1909:2:1 ("Status of Individual Jews")

"The fact that the spiritual leaders and the religious teachers of the Jewish Nation onetime rejected the teachings of Jesus and conspired to bring about his cruel death, does not in any manner affect the status of any individual jew in his standing before God. And it should not cause those who profess to be followers of the Christ to be prejudiced against the jew as a fellow mortal. The jews, as a nation, as a sociopolitical group, paid in full the terrible price of rejecting the Prince of Peace. Long since they ceased to be the spiritual torchbearers of divine truth to the races of mankind, but this constitutes no valid reason why the individual descendants of these long-ago jews should be made to suffer the persecutions which have been visited upon them by intolerant, unworthy and bigoted professed followers of Jesus of Nazareth, who was, himself a jew by natural birth.

AGONDONTER
78 Grand Ave.,
Pasadena, California



Molly Parke
10147 Densmore Ave.,
Sepulveda, California

AGONDONTER

"The better man understands his neighbor, the easier it will be to forgive him, even to love him." The Urantia Book P. 248:2:4.

Volume I Number 8 April, 1965

Published by First Urantia Society of Los Angeles, 78 Grand Ave., Pasadena, California. 91103, SY 3-8971

CALENDAR OF COMING EVENTS

(NOTICE:- As previously announced, material concerning the activities of the three study groups must be submitted prior to the 5th. of each month covering from the 15th. to the 15th. of the following month or it cannot be included in the CALENDAR.) Note: See the corrected CALENDAR OF EVENTS ON Page 4

SANTA MONICA - for information contact Mrs. Georgia W. Gecht, 2034 Stewart, EX 4-2623 - meet 1st. and 3rd. Saturdays at 8:00 P.M. See Page 4

PASADENA - 78 Grand Ave., SY 3-8971, Helen Steen.

1 - Sunday, April 25th, 2:00 P.M., Hays Schlundt again takes over to introduce us to India in more of his sensitively artistic color slides, while he discusses the treatment of Jesus in the Koran, one of the Holy books widely followed on the Subcontinent.

2 - Sunday, May 9th., 2:00 P.M. Part I:- Helen Steen speaking on "The Spirit Beings stationed thruout the Universe", Part II:- William Burton King beginning a series of talks.

LOS ANGELES - for information contact Ward and Maria Culbertson, 317 North Orange Drive, Los Angeles, WE 6-0011 - meet 2nd and 4th Fridays at 8:00 P.M. See the necessary information on Page 4

FINANCIAL APPEAL - To all who are interested in the Urantia Book:

The URANTIA BROTHERHOOD required approximately \$12,000 annually to pay for rent, telephone, postage, office supplies, committee expenses, cost of books, plus miscellaneous expenses. (There are no paid workers.)

The URANTIA FOUNDATION must accumulate funds now for the second printing of the Urantia Book, which probably will be undertaken during the year 1966. This will require an outlay of between \$65,000 and \$70,000.

At present both organizations are behind in their needs.

Those wishing to help may mail contributions and/or pledges to:-

Urantia Brotherhood
533 Diversey Parkway
Chicago, Illinois 60614

and specify (if you wish) whether they are to the Brotherhood or the Foundation. (If you do not specify they will be equally divided).

GENERAL EISENHOWER, not long ago said: - "We should enroll under the banner of common sense." That suggestion should receive unanimous approval.

But whose common sense? That really poses the problem. Individually we must make our own decisions for our personal progress, trust our own intelligence, and depend on our own inner guidance to help us recognise the best way from the not so good.

"Culture presupposes quality of mind; culture cannot be enhanced unless mind is elevated. Superior intellect will seek a noble culture and find some way to attain a goal. Inferior minds will spurn the highest culture even when presented to them ready-made." Urantia Book P. 578:4.

AGONDONTER: An ascender from isolated world. One "who can beleive without seeing, persevere when isolated, and triumph over insuperable difficulties wven when alone". The Urantia Boob P. 579:1

FROM THE PRESIDENT'S PEN:-

Sunday Afternoon, March 14 - the Eicher's opened their beautiful home, high in the hills above Arcadia - for a party, honoring the Burtons. This was the first time our three groups, including the five new members had been together. It was a momentous occasion because it marked the first time a class of the Brotherhood School had ever been held outside Chicago.

Ruth Burton handed out certificates to all of the members who had attended the school. We will know later how many received the valued half credit for the course. Our heartfelt thanks to Christy and Ruth for making this "first" possible. We are looking forward to more classes in the future.
Helen K. Steen

AN EVENING AT MALINE ENGLESTAD'S

The final session of Ruth Burton's Santa Monica study group was highlighted by a buffet supper on Saturday evening, March 13, at the home of Maline Englestad. The affair was in honor of Ruth and Bob Burton and the newest member of First Urantia Society of Los Angeles, Wilma Walker. There were 15 members of the Santa Monica group present and all agreed that Maline is a wonderful cook and hostess.

The solemn event of the evening was the initiation of Wilma Walker into membership of FUSLA by Vice-President Georgia Gecht, Secretary Julia K. Fenderson and Ruth Burton. Wilma is the fifth of five members to be inducted during the study sessions led by Ruth, others are Wally Ziglor, Dick Ziglor, David Saunders and Polly Parke.

A WORD FROM THE SECRETARY

The huge success of Ruth's study sessions held in three different areas each week during her nine week stay here indicates that "the harvest is ripe" for more of the same. There were 31 persons who attended these sessions regularly during Ruth's nine-week course.

This shows the great importance of having instructors of high calibre sent from Chicago. We eagerly anticipate the next class to be sponsored by the Brotherhood School of Chicago. There is no other school or source of teachers for credit -- thus we are dependant on the Brotherhood School which has been training teachers for many years.

We desperately need these teachers to follow through with the wonderful job Ruth Burton has done. Please send them out to us and soon.

Julia K. Fenderson

MAPS AND CHARTS TOBE COLLECTED BY BROTHERHOOD

The President of Urantia Brotherhood, E. L. Christensen, has appointed a committee of three, known as the Committee on Maps and Charts, consisting of Thomas A. Kendall, Harry E. Rowley and John J. Seras to assemble material which they eventually hope to publish in book form as an integrated series of instructional illustrations. They would like to see what people have done and would appreciate your sending them your completed or nearly complete charts or maps along with any explanatory material.

Examples might be the headquarters clusters of the system, constellation, local universe, superuniverse, etc.; maps of Jesus' activities, racial migrations, evolution, etc.

Your comments and suggestions for other charts or maps that you think are needed would also be appreciated.

All artwork remains the property of the artist and they suggest you retain copies. Please advise them if you want your material returned.

Please send all material to:

Thomas A. Kendall, Chairman
Committee on Maps and Charts
Urantia Brotherhood
533 Diversey Parkway
Chicago, Illinois. 60614

TECHNICAL TRUTH MADE PLAIN by Barbara Ann King

There is no such thing as something created from nothing. All things are created from something. Trees, rocks, rivers, people, animals are expressions of qualities or things which first existed on higher planes of life before they were manifested in the material.

God is a Personality. He is Love personified, Wisdom personified. He is all things good and true...He is Life Itself. These qualities of His nature are ever seeking to express themselves, for there is no stagnation or decay in Him. We could think of Him as having an eternal desire to express what He is and what He feels, that we might know He exists, learn to love Him, and find our way Home to our Father's House.

Let us note the wording used in the story of Creation in Genesis. "And God said, Let there be...and there was." He did not have to summon all His reserve, dormant energy, as it were, sit down to meditate, and decide just what He should do with Himself, how to create this world, and why. It is almost as if the thought and desires of His nature were waiting patiently, but eagerly, to go forth from Him and create. And finally, when the time came, God gave His permission. He said "Let it be"...and it was. The energies or qualities of His personality (Deity Absolute) descended through various channels or stages, as it were, until they reached the level where they became impersonal energy (Unqualified Absolute). By means of this impersonal energy the various material manifestations of our world came into existence. The spiritual Light in Him descended and became the light of day in our world. His love went forth from Him and became the warmth of the sun in our sky...the warmth in our bodies, which keeps us alive. His feelings of tenderness or patience went forth and were embodied in the gentle sheep, the patient ox. Plants, flowers and trees became living, growing "demonstrations", as it were, of how His Divine Truth grows from the first seed which He plants in our hearts.

It is true that in the lower manifestations, these qualities are not as pure or intense as they exist in Him; nevertheless, they are here, terminated in the things of our earth plane, that we might see them and know they exist on higher planes too...in higher forms. The two--the Spiritual cause or source, and the material manifestation are COUNTERPARTS.

There is a statement in Genesis, 2:4,5 which tells us, "The Lord God made the earth and the heavens, and every plant of the field before it was in the earth, and every herb of the field before it grew." This is stated a little stronger in the spiritual records called the Book of Moses..."For I, the Lord God, created all things...spiritually before they were naturally upon the face of the earth...I made the world and men before they were in the flesh".

It is obvious to us that birth, growth and death exist in the animal and vegetable kingdoms. But the lowest of the three kingdoms of our world is the mineral kingdom, where things are seemingly in a solid, crystallized state. And yet it is interesting to note that even on this plane of manifestation, nothing exists independent of God; for having once created something, God must continue to sustain it lest it disintegrate. A rock on the hillside, a piece of lead, a telephone pole by the side of the road...these things seem to be made of solid, dead substance, but even science tells us that there is no such thing as perfectly solid matter. All things are made up of millions of tiny molecules which are continuously moving and vibrating.

The energy which causes these molecules to move and vibrate in all substance...where does it come from? From the Lord, of course, down through the channels we have mentioned. This energy is an impersonal manifestation of God's Love, as compared with something like a word of kindness spoken by Jesus, or by a true Christian, which has personality in it. It is the personality, or personal energy of God, which changes a man's life. The Impersonal energy creates and sustains all material things.

DO YOU WANT TO KEEP GETTING AGONDONTER?

PLEASE LET US KNOW

Cut off and mail to F.U.S.L.A. 78 North Grand Ave., Pasadena, Calif.

___ Please keep sending me AGONDONTER

___ I am enclosing _____ to help you with this work

___ Please add to your mailing list for AGONDONTER the following:

There is no subscription charge for AGONDONTER; the approximate cost, though, is about \$2.00 per year.

EDITORIALSEMI-AUTONOMY FOR STUDY GROUPS?

Because of our great distances in this area it has proven increasingly difficult to keep the machinery of our society functioning smoothly and adequately for the needs of our rapid expansion of the past two years.

It has come to the editor's ears that some members would like to see three separate societies formed out of the nuclei of our present Pasadena, Santa Monica and Los Angeles study groups. This, however, generates the problem of getting together ten persons who have read the Book from cover to cover in order to obtain each new charter. It would seem that this is not yet a real possibility as we would need two new charters.

There is one interim solution, however. At the annual assembly in July, we could give considerable freedom to each study group to manage its own affairs without reference back to F.U.S.L.A. for each of its decisions. What better way out of our dilemma than to give each study group, now the excellent experience of owning itself, with the view toward eventually dividing into three wholly separate societies? Under such an arrangement the officers of the various study groups, President, Secretary and Treasurer, might automatically serve as a united governing board for F.U.S.L.A. meeting perhaps only once a year just prior to and/or just after the Annual Assembly of the Society as a whole.

NOTICE: Due to the following information reaching me late it became necessary to make this correction---Please note:

CALENDAR OF COMING EVENTS (Regular Assemblies for study:-

SANTA MONICA -- 1st & 3rd Sunday at 1:00 P.M.

PASADENA -- 2nd & 4th Sunday at 2:00 P.M.

LOS ANGELES -- Every Thursday at 8:00 P.M.

.....

SANTA MONICA 4/25/65 at Mrs. Maline Englestad's (This is not the third Sunday because Easter Sunday falls on that day this month) Address:- 11852 Gorham Ave., West Los Angeles, Apt. 6, Telephone 478-6614; Topic (Georgia Gecht teaching). Part 1 - study of the Father (Papers 1-5), Part 2 - study of The Supreme.

5/2/65 - The Same - at Alice Anderson, 201 San Vincente Blvd., Apt. 14 - Santa Monica.

5/16/65 - The Same - same address
PASADENA 4/25/65, 78 N. Grand Ave., Pasadena, SY 3-8971. Mr. Hayes Schlundt speaking on "Jesus in the Koran" and showing, in color, pictures of India from his personal collection of slides taken on one of his world wide tours.

5/9/65 -- same place, Mrs. Helen K. Steen teaching Part 1 on "The Angels and other Spirit Beings stationed thruout the Universe". Part 2 - Mr. Wm. Burton King teaching and beginning his new series.

LOS ANGELES - 4/15/65, 4/22/65, 4/29/65, 5/6 and 5/13/65 at 317 No. Orange Drive, Los Angeles, Telephone - WE 6-0011 - different topics and different leaders each week.

Please Note: - The Treasurer asks all those who have not paid their dues and are members of FUSLA to please bring their \$1.00 a month or \$12.00 a year payments up to date. He states that the balance in the treasury as of April 4th. stood at \$11.59, a dangerously narrow margin to operate on.

AGONDONTER
78 No. Grand Ave.,
Pasadena, California

THIRD CLASS



Polly Parke
10147 Densmore Ave.,
Sepulveda, California

AGONDONTER

"Mercy is the natural and inevitable offspring of goodness and love".
Urantia Book, P-38:5

Volume I Number 9 May 1965

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CALENDAR OF COMING EVENTS

(NOTICE: Material concerning the activities of the three study groups must be submitted prior to the 5th. of each month, covering from the 15th. to the 15th. of the following month, or it cannot be included in the CALENDAR).

SANTA MONICA - meet the 1st. and 3rd. Sundays of each month at 1 P.M. Georgia Gecht, Teacher - Phone EX 4-2623. May 2nd. and 16th. at the home of Alice Anderson, 201 San Vincente Blvd., Santa Monica, Apt. 14. Subjects: Part I - study of the Father (Papers 1-5), Part II - Study of the Supreme.....
....June meetings will be held at the home of Mr. & Mrs Malcolm Neal, 1407 Oak Street, Santa Monica. June 6th and 20th. (Sunday) at 1:00 P.M. Subjects: The Nature of God; why we start with the complex; why there are limitations on revelations.

PASADENA - 78 North Grand Ave., Pasadena - SY 3-8971, home of Helen Steen. AGONDONTER research meets 2nd and 4th Sundays of each month at 2:00 P.M. On May 9th and 16th - Part I: Helen Steen will talk on "Angels and other Spirit Beings stationed throughout the Universe", Part II: Wm. Burton King will continue his talk on "Revealed Truth".

LOS ANGELES - for information contact Maria and Ward Culbertson, 317 No. Orange Drive, Los Angeles - Phone WE 6-0011. Different topics and different leaders each week. Meets every Thursday evening.

From RUTH AND BOB BURTON, in their letter of April 29, 1965
Dear Helen and members of the Society:

You must have something in addition to a cancelled check as a receipt for your most generous gift presented at that lovely farewell party on March 14, at the Eicher's beautiful home. Previously, I have repeatedly spoken or written informally to some of you, but here at last is a written acknowledgment for your Society records, a sincere and heartfelt "Thank you", not only for the final festivities, but for your wonderful co-operation and cordiality throughout the entire extension course project. The whole challenging and rewarding experience is a bright and happy memory for both my husband and me.

Although greenbacks which the Pasadena bank gave us in cashing the check have gone for gas on the trip home, the amount of that check, the full \$50.00 is being held in reserve for new duplicating equipment, which will be useful to both Bob and me, in our efforts to disseminate the teachings of the Urantia Book. Thus, we shall be continually grateful to you for your thoughtful and practical gift.

May the angels of enlightenment guide and bless the efforts of each and every one of you.

Sincerely,
Ruth and Bob Burton

AGONDONTER: An ascender from isolated world. One "who can believe without seeing, persevere when isolated, and triumph over insuperable difficulties even when alone." URANTIA BOOK, P-579:1

FROM THE DESK OF THE PRESIDENT

Sunday, the 25th. was a red letter day for our Pasadena meeting. Mr. Hays Schlundt showed his beautiful colored slides of India, with its fabulously carved temples and picturesque people.

As everyone knows who has seen them, Mr. Schlundt's pictures are artistically beautiful, and he travels far off the beaten path to get unusual ones. He also gave an interesting talk on "Jesus and the Koran", and on "Sikhism", as it is practiced in India today.

We all join in thanking Mr. and Mrs. Schlundt for giving us such an entertaining afternoon, and hope that we may have more of them.

A TRIP TO INDIA

On Sunday, April 25, Mr. Hays Schlundt, at the Pasadena Group meeting, showed some of his many, wonderful colored slides on India. We visited many of the temples there, flew from city to city, or even took drives out into the country and farmlands to meet some of the fine Indian people. Our thanks go to him for his interesting "armchair adventure", and for his talk on "Jesus in the Koran".

WHEN IN CHICAGO VISIT ORVONTON

We received a letter from our friends in this Society, dated April 1, 1965. We wish to thank them for becoming subscribers to our AGONDONTER paper. They want to invite all interested people who visit Chicago to attend their meetings, which are held weekly, Friday evenings at 8:00 P.M., from the first of September through the last of June. 108W. Oak Street, Chicago. Phone SU 7-5792. At present they are well into Part 3 of the Urantia Book, and usually cover one paper per evening.

"JOHN THE BAPTIST, LAST OF THE PROPHETS" by Robert Steen

I have been troubled for some time over a statement Jesus made concerning his second cousin and the herald of his mission, John the Baptist, who now sits in great honor as one of the "four and twenty counsellors" (in the terminology of the King James Bible) and helps to direct the spiritual affairs of Urantia and all the spiritually isolated spheres of Satania for Michael of Nebadon.

Jesus said John was the greatest of the Prophets of the old order but "he also said that the least of those who saw the great light of the new way and entered thereby into the Kingdom of heaven was indeed greater than John". (p-1509:1)

After much reflection, a new light of understanding dawned and I believe I have an answer to the riddle of how that which Jesus said about John could have been true.

I pondered long and hard as to why Jesus' message calling men to repentance and to submission to God's loving guidance would have been preceded and proclaimed first as a message of repentance in order to escape God's wrath.

It occurs to me that this was perhaps a case of God forgiving the devil (or the Spiritual government combatting the influences of evil) with the enemy's weapons. John frightened people and compelled them to reflect on their sin, while Jesus liberated them from thought of sin by giving them high spiritual ideals to think about. Instead of hating and rebelling against evil Jesus turned his back on it and did not dwell on the shortcomings and failures of his fellows. He rather talked positively to them of the better things they could attain through their own efforts assisted by prayer to their Father in Paradise, just as he had done.

"John was an eager and earnest worker, but Jesus was a calm and happy laborer" (p-1509:1)

I have speculated long and repeatedly about the evil influences of Caligastia, Satan and Lucifer and how the vestiges of their influences manifest themselves in our world today as well as how they must have been in Christ's day when their power was as yet undiminished by the spread of Jesus' teachings and bestowal of his Spirit of Truth. I think this greater power of the devil and his associates in the previous age may have called for the "old-order" of prophets, such as Elijah, Isaiah, Jeremiah and John, to combat it effectively.

Here I see the methods of the Gods as those of fighting fire with fire, so to speak. While the devil influenced men to rebel and to hate their divine creator, the prophets called upon them to hate and rebel against evil!

Continued on Page 3

JOHN THE BAPTIST, LAST OF THE PROPHETS Continued from page 2

But, fear and compulsion, hate and rebellion, are trully not the way, in the Post Bestowal Son Age, to call the sincere of heart to a deeper and closer unity with their creator. Jesus left us with the pattern. Patience, persistence and love should bring us success eventually as "calm and happy laborers".

NEW GOALS AHEAD By Bob Burton

Scientists are now probing outer space. Astronomers and thoughtful people are considering the probability of other inhabited planets. It follows that there must be more advanced civilizations than ours on some of them. ...The science editor of the New York Times, Walter Sullivan, in his book, "We are not alone", suggests that if we contacted life on another planet and found a more advanced civilization, "Knowledge of such a civilization, its discoveries, its techniques might enable us to leap-frog thousands of years along the path before us."

...But we have been given just such knowledge of better worlds and better governments to help us advance civilization and augment governmental evolution on Urantia. Urantia Book, P-820:2

...It tells how more advanced civilizations on other worlds have solved or are solving these many problems that now threaten our civilization.

...We have enough experience and inner guidance to recognize good suggestions and should welcome them no matter from what source they come.

...Our troubled world needs fresh new pictures of possible future exalted goals for human achievement.

A FAVORED PARABLE of Henry Thoreau from HINDU REGILIOUS WRITINGS

"There was a King's son, who, being expelled in infancy from his native city, was brought up by a woodsman, and, growing up to maturity in that state, imagined himself to belong to the barbarous race with which he lived. One of his father's ministers having discovered him, revealed to him what he was, and the misconception of his character was removed and he knew himself to be a prince. So (a) soul, from the circumstances in which it is placed, mistakes its own character, until the truth is revealed to it by some holy teacher, and then it knows itself to be 'BRAHME' (divine)".

REVELATION VERSUS SCIENCE

Revelation has always kept pace with science because revelation is evolutionary and always progressive. In fact we can go a step further and say that revelation is the basis of all pioneering in both religion and science. What is revelation but the disclosure or manifestation of something not previously known?...and this applies to all things that fall into the category of both science and religion. We will have little problem with the word "revelation" if we but remember this divine axiom: "Nothing can or does exist in a material form that does not have a spiritual counterpart."

There is little difference between the method of a revelation that comes to an Edison showing him the possibility of harnessing electricity to produce light, and the revelation that comes into the mind of a true Christian about the eternal state of man. However, both of these revelations must be worked out to the complete satisfaction of the one who receives the revelation. A true Christian has just as much integrity as a true scientist, and will only express those truths which have been fully investigated and which have become fact based upon relative knowledge and actual personal experience.

Just as Edison persevered in his quest to produce the incandescent light ...so does the true Christian pursue the revelation he receives until he is able to reconcile it with all previous knowledge, with the evolutionary growth of the universe and man, and with the science of his day. It is true that many scientists have pursued ideas that were not based on true revelation and insight. Likewise many religious ideas have been set forth as true ways of life, but failed in the final analysis of everyday living.

When we look at the overall historical picture of man we can see that there have been many small or individual revelations in the fields of religion and science which have served specific or temporary needs...There have also been outstanding revelations which have been universal in scope, in both science and religion. History tells us, too, that religion and science have not walked hand in hand together down the corridors of time. This is primarily due to the fact that the revelations of religion have been -----

Continued on Page 4

Revelation vs Science....cont'd from page 3

-----relative to the true nature of man and his life beyond the so-called grave...while scientific revelations and research have been concerned with the material universe.

In the field of religion there have been four generally accepted universal revelations relative to the spiritual and moral state of man. The first of these was the Dalamatian teachings, followed by the Edenic teachings, Melchizedek of Salem, and the teachings of Jesus of Nazareth. Very little is to be found in these teachings that pertains to the physical nature relative to the worlds or planets in the life beyond.

During this same time, evolutionary science has pursued its quest for the source of life in matter; and strange to say, the fact that science and religion did not see eye to eye did not present much of a problem in the evolution of either science or religion. Just as there have been major revelations in the field of religion, there have been major revelations in the field of science...the solving of the mystery of the atom by Einstein and his contemporaries ushered in a new day, not only for science but also for religion.

With the opening up of the atomic age by the scientists, religion and science could no longer go their separate ways...the time had come for science and religion to become reconciled. Up until the time of the beginning of the atomic age, no attempt had been made on the part of the true Christian to really reconcile the differences existing between these two bodies of thought. It is true that certain dogmatic individuals in the religious camp have endeavored to solve this feud. This they have done by trying to deny the findings of science, as well as trying to reconcile religion with science. These attempts utterly failed because religion had no scientific revelation upon which to base its claims.

Just as it has been recorded in the annals of history, that the twentieth century ushered in the atomic age for the scientists, likewise, in parallel, a fifth revelation was given to religion, which actually fulfills the philosophical words of old: "The last shall be first." That is just what has happened; with the fifth revelation, religion is now ahead of science, for we not only have a scientific revelation, we have scientific data that goes far beyond anything our scientists have yet discovered. No longer can the scientists look at us with scientific pride, for not only can we talk their language, but we can prophecy just what they will discover in the future, and how far they will go before they come face to face with our Heavenly Father, who is also their Father.

Over nineteen hundred years ago the Apostle Paul, writing to his followers in Colosse, made this statement: "For by him (the eternal Son of God) were all things created, that are in heaven and that are in earth, visible and invisible, whether they be thrones, or dominions, or principalities, or powers; all things were created by him and for him, and he is before all things, and by him all things consist." Colossians 1:16,17

Although Paul's statement was true in its entirety, as far as he was concerned, it could not be proved universally because there was no universal revelation at that time to substantiate his statement. But now, thanks to the fifth revelation we can substantiate Paul's statement.

The fact that the scientists have not come to the place where they can and are willing to recognize the God of creation has in the past presented a problem in the minds of some who have embraced the divine revelations. However, when we stop to consider the phenomena of Universal mechanism we can easily see why it is almost impossible for a scientist to accept the truth that the mind of God controls all things in the spiritual universe as well as in the material universe.

In the evaluation and recognition of mind it should be remembered that the universe is neither mechanical nor magical; it is a creation of mind and a mechanism of law. But while in practical application the laws of nature operate in what seems to be the dual realms of the physical and the spiritual, in reality they are one. The First Source and Center is the primal cause of all materialization and at the same time the first and final Father of all spirits. The Paradise Father appears personally in the extra-Havona universes only as pure energy and pure spirit...481-5

"If the nonreligious approaches to cosmic reality presume to challenge the certainty of faith on the grounds of its unproved status, then the spirit of experienter can likewise resort to the dogmatic challenge of the facts of science and the beliefs of philosophy on the grounds that they are likewise unproved; they are likewise experiences in the consciousness of the scientist or the philosopher.



AGONDONTER

"Human beings possess identity only in the material sense. . . but mortal personality, through its own choosing, possesses the power of transferring its seat of identity from the passing material-intellect system to the higher morontia-soul system. . ."

Urantia Book, P-1232: Sect. 5, Par. 4

Volume I Number 10 June, 1965

Published by First Urantia Society of Los Angeles, 78 North Grand Ave.,
Pasadena, California - 91103, SY 3-8971

ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM THE SECRETARY by Julia K. Fenderson

#1--Chicago will have another 3-day summer study sessions to which oldtimers and newcomers are both cordially invited. Friday, August 6th thru Sunday, August 8th--Main theme: "The Morontia Life". The meetings will be both informative and inspirational, but are non-credit bearing. Contact Urantia Brotherhood, 533 Diversey Pkwy., Chicago, Illinois, 60614 if you would like to attend. The tentative programs--

Friday, 8/6

Morning -- Welcome - Miss Christensen, President, Urantia Brotherhood
Orientation - Alvin Kulieke
Urantia Symphony - Alvin Kulieke
Afternoon- Personality Survival - Kenton Stephens
Evening - Open Discussion - Panel - Questions to be submitted
in advance

Saturday, 8/7

Morning - Life on the Mansion Worlds - Marian Rowley
Afternoon- Constellation and Local Universe - Anna Rawson
Evening - Social occasion - Dr. Sadler and Christy, hosts

Sunday, 8/8

Morning (Closing Session) - Inspirational Talk - Alvin Kulieke

#2--STUDY GROUP MEETINGS (Regular Assemblies for Study)

SANTA MONICA -- 1st and 3rd Sunday at 1:00 P.M. Call EX 4-2623
PASADENA -- 2nd and 4th Sunday at 2:00 P.M. Call SY 3-8971 for details
LOS ANGELES -- Every Thursday at 8:00 P.M. Call WE 6-0011 for details

#3--ANNUAL ASSEMBLY OF THE SOCIETY

The Annual Meeting of the First Urantia Society of Los Angeles, California, will be held at the Culbertson home, 317 N. Orange Drive, Los Angeles 36, on Sunday, July 11, 1965, at 1:00 p.m.
This annual get-together has two big purposes:

1--Socialization and getting better acquainted with our far-flung fellow members.

2--Election of officers for the year.

A pot luck picnic will culminated the afternoon activities.
Bring a friend or relative and plan for a happy afternoon.
For further details please call:

Ward Culbertson -- WE 6-0011 or Helen Steen -- SY 3-8971.

AGONDONTER: An ascender from an isolated world. One "who can believe without seeing, persevere when isolated, and triumph over insuperable difficulties even when alone." URANTIA BOOK, P-579:1

Continued on page 2

We wish to call everyone's attention to an omission from our last edition. The article entitled "Revelation vs. Science" was a condensation of an essay by Wm. Burton King. For brevity we reduced it to one sixth of its original length by omitting supporting quotations from the Urantia Book. Mr. King advises that this article was intended as an approach to the scientist and thru oversight an explanatory note concerning his intention was omitted. Please accept our apologies for this. . . .

The F.U.S.L.A. Education Committee

WEST COAST GETS FIELD REP.

The Executive Committee of the General Council of Urantia Brotherhood has just appointed Julia K. Fenderson one of its field representatives. We can be justly proud of this recognition Julia has won for herself. It should mean a better rapport between local groups and Chicago, center of Brotherhood activities.

Also appointed was another lady Urantian, Miss Berkeley Elliott of Oklahoma City, a good friend of Julia's. These two fine ladies bring the feminine viewpoint to the office, as present Field Rep. Dr. Meredith Sprague has pointed out. He and another respected gentleman, Mr. James C. Mills are the only other Field Representatives.

ATTENTION! READERS by Doris M. George

With this issue the Agondonter's first year draws to a close for it has been decided not to publish during July and August.

We of the Agondonter staff wish to thank all those who have helped or encouraged us in one way or another. We are especially indebted to Mrs. Olive Cooley for faithfully typing each issue and to Mrs. Eicher for handling the mailing. We also thank each of you who have contributed material for printing.

We thought you might be interested in knowing that the paper has traveled to Oregon, to the three societies of Chicago, to Oklahoma City, to New Mexico, to Ensenada and as far south in Southern California as San Diego. We started with a mailing list of 50 and went to 73. Response has been good. Letters of encouragement have come in and sometimes donations over and above the cost of a subscription. These donations plus what people have paid for subscriptions have approximately covered the cost of printing.

Thanks then to all of you.

FROM THE PRESIDENT'S PEN by Helen K. Steen

The annual meeting of the First Urantia Society will be held at the home of the Culbertsons, 317 North Orange Drive, on July 11th at 1:30 p.m. The meeting will be followed by a picnic in the lovely Culbertson backyard. All members, non-members and guests are invited. This is a potluck picnic and each one can bring his favorite dish, casserole, salad, dessert or what have you? Please check among yourselves so we will have a fairly well-balanced menu, and bring your own picnic basket, dishes, silver, etc. For more information refer to page one of this publication.

DR. SADLER IS 90

Dr. William S. Sadler, the beloved patriarch of Urantia Book Students throughout the world, will celebrate the fulfillment of ninety years on this planet on June 24, 1965.

Cont'd. on page 3

--WHEN IN CHICAGO VISIT ORVONTON--

. . . Urantia Society--September thru June . . .
 108 W. Oak Street, Chicago; Tel: SU 7-5792
 Meetings Fridays at 8:00 p.m.
 Papers studies consecutively - one per evening currently
 (June) papers 78-81 (Part III)

Urantia follows in the Chicago area will be attending a gala celebration in honor of the Doctor on Saturday, June 26, 1965. The officers of our society, all our members and friends in our three study groups, join those on the Agondonter staff in sending you, Doctor, our best wishes on this noteworthy occasion.

GOOD NEWS FROM THE OKLAHOMA PANHANDLE

Paul Barby, who left Southern California home over a year ago has just written reporting on his progress with the study group back there.

Paul now leads a class which meets regularly once a month. He calls it "Sonall"; a group of 12 to 15 members (we would call that "substantial"). He says his people are still asking for more books and that there are now "quite a few" who have heard about the book in his area.

We pray for your good work, Paul. And keep letting us know how you're doing! There is probably no one thing of greater feeling to Urantia Book followers than hearing the experiences and progress of their fellow believers around the world.

FOUR FINANCIAL QUERIES

- #1 Have you made a contribution to the Urantia Brotherhood and/or the Urantia Foundation?

Mail your checks, pledges or inquiries to:
Urantia Brotherhood
533 Diversey Pkwy.
Chicago, Illinois 60614

- #2 And are your local dues paid up-to-date?

- #3 Have you made a contribution yet to help publish AGONDONTER?

(Cost: approx. \$2.00 per copy for a year)

- #4 Have you bought your Universe Map Set (by the Culbertsons)?

(Price: \$1.00). The purchase of one of these sets means a contribution to the work of the Society, as well as being a helpful study aid. Please assist us and buy a set, won't you?

For #2, #3, and #4: --

Mail your checks or inquiries to:
F. W. Culbertson
Treasurer - F.U.S.L.A.
317 No. Orange Dr.
Los Angeles, Calif. 90036

OR

See Mr. Culbertson at
The General Assembly Meeting
July 11th, 1965 at his home

BOOK REVIEWS -- Selected by Polly Parke

In the May 1st issue of "United Church Herald", John L. Casteel comments on books concerning science and theology written for the "layman". Following are summaries of books seemingly containing much new thought:

"A....popularly written, but scientifically informed title is that of Walter Sullivan's 'We Are Not Alone', the story of the rise of space science. Here the mounting evidence for the assumption that the Universe may have many other spheres on which intelligent life has, does or will exist, is summarized convincingly. A final chapter reviews the theological issues arising from this assumption. If intelligent - and presumably moral - beings exist elsewhere in the universe, in what sense is Jesus Christ to be held the Savior of all Creation?"

"Werner and Lotte Pelz have written a small provocative book,

Continued on page 4

'God is No More'. God is no more, say the authors, because he has been made an idea, confined to creedal systems. Our hope comes in hearing the words of Jesus again, sensing their authentic power by poetic conviction and intuition. This approach is not as naive as it may sound."

I think it is significant that these books, which could be quite controversial in theological circles are written up in church publications. I have not read them so cannot comment myself, but others may find the reviews as fascinating as I did and wish to order the books as I intend to

URANTIA BOOK STATEMENTS ON BELIEF AND FAITH suggested by Julia K. Fenderson

- * "Genuine spiritual faith (True moral consciousness) is revealed in that it... maintains a mysterious poise and composure of personality in the face of maltreatment and the rankest injustice... steadfastly adheres to a sublime belief in universe unity and divine guidance regardless of the perplexing presence of evil and sin ... Goes right on worshipping God in spite of anything and everything. Dares to declare, "Even though he slay me, yet will I serve him." P-1108
- * "Belief has attained the level of faith when it motivates life and shapes the mode of living. The acceptance of a teaching as true is not faith; that is more belief. Neither is certainty nor conviction faith. A State of mind attains to faith levels only when it actually dominates the mode of living. Faith is a living attribute of genuine personal religious experience. One believes truth, admires beauty, and reverences goodness, but does not worship them; such an attitude of saving faith is centered on God alone, who is all of these personified and infinitely more." P-1114
- * "Convictions about God may be arrived at through wise reasoning. but the individual becomes God-knowing only by faith, through personal experience." P-1124
- * "Faith never shuns the problem-solving duty of mortal living..... Faith vitalizes religion and constrains the religionist heroically to live the golden rule." P-1115

AGONDONTER
78 No. Grand Ave.,
Pasadena, California

REVELATION VS SCIENCEcontinued from page 4

Of God, the most inescapable of all presences, the most real of all facts, the most living of all truths, the most loving of all friends, and the most divine of all values, we have the right to be the most certain of all universe experiences. 1127:3,4

AGONDONTER
78 No. Grand Ave.,
Pasadena, California

THIRD CLASS

AGONDONTER

Agondonter(See last page)

February, 1966

"Men die searching for the very God who lives within them." P.1776

WINTER SEMINAR

The last meeting of the Governing Committee was held at the Harman home in Los Angeles just prior to the welcoming of the Burtons who are here to conduct this winter's seminar. On this same day, Jan. 18, 1966, the schedule of subsequent meetings was voted upon by all study group members present and by popular agreement two days each week were selected for classes for nine weeks.

Tuesday, 8 p.m., Culbertsons, 317 N. Orange Dr., L.A. WE 6-0011

Sunday, 2 p.m., Harmans, 368 N. Ridgewood Pl., L.A. 462-5253

About 26 are attending the Sunday class and approximately 15 the Tuesday class.

Our study sessions, conducted by Ruth Burton of Chicago, consist of a half-credit course on the subject of Doctrine I, Theology of the Urantia Book. The cost of the course for credit is \$11.00. (This includes textbook and outline). The fee for auditing is \$3.50 plus \$5.00 for the textbook, or \$8.50. All money is to be turned over to Polly Parke, Treasurer of the First Urantia Society of Los Angeles, who will send it to the Urantia Brotherhood School in Chicago.

SUMMER SEMINAR

A letter from Alvin Kulieke to Julia Fenderson, Secretary of the First Urantia Society of Los Angeles, announced his intention to conduct a course on Science for a summer session of three weeks in July. This has already set the Governing Board into action concerning accommodations not only for the Kuliekes, but for students as well. To accommodate all students comfortably and at the same time create somewhat of a classroom effect, we feel that special folding chairs (such as those recently procured by the Chicago group) and a rostrum are necessary for our present and forthcoming seminars.

The chairs in Chicago cost approximately \$17.00 each, wholesale. We will investigate this more thoroughly to meet with the approval of all, and then, perhaps, buy five or ten chairs. If anyone has

knowledge or contact with someone in the furniture (DISCOUNT) business, please notify Dick Ziglar, Vice-President, at 936-8791.

NEW MEMBER

Mrs. Eleanor Harman was initiated as our newest member on Jan. 18, 1966. The ceremony was conducted by Julia Fenderson and Ruth Burton in the presence of 26 members of the study group. She is a dedicated student and a welcome member to our Society.

NEW COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN

The pressing demands of college work have caused our dedicated member Scott Forsythe to resign as Education Committee Chairman. Wally Ziglar, a member of the Education Committee, has been appointed chairman, succeeding Scott.

STUDY GROUPS

The three study groups -- Los Angeles, Pasadena and Santa Monica -- have cancelled their meetings during the winter seminar. Meetings will be resumed in about nine weeks.

NEWS ABOUT DR. SADLER

We are relieved to hear that Dr. Sadler is much improved and will soon be home. Cards will be welcome at 533 Diversey Parkway, Chicago, Illinois 60614.

INSPIRATIONAL MESSAGE

Pages 1862-63: Section 4. JESUS' TEACHING ABOUT THE KINGDOM.

"Jesus never gave a precise definition of the kingdom. At one time he would discourse on one phase of the kingdom, and at another time he would discuss a different aspect of the brotherhood of God's reign in the hearts of men. In the course of this Sabbath afternoon's sermon Jesus noted no less than five phases, or epochs, of the kingdom, and they were:

"1. The personal and inward experience of the spiritual life of the fellowship of the individual believer with God the Father.

"2. The enlarging brotherhood of gospel believers, the social aspects of the enhanced morals and quickened ethics resulting from the reign of God's spirit in the hearts of individual believers.

"3. The supermortal brotherhood of invisible spiritual beings which prevails on earth and in heaven, the superhuman kingdom of God.

"4. The prospect of the more perfect fellowship of the will of God, the advance toward the dawn of a new social order in connection with improved spiritual living -- the next age of man.

"5. The kingdom in its fullness, the future spiritual age of

light and life on earth.

"Wherefore must we always examine the Master's teaching to ascertain which of these five phases he may have reference to when he makes use of the term kingdom of heaven. By this process of gradually changing man's will and thus affecting human decisions, Michael and his associates are likewise gradually but certainly changing the entire course of human evolution, social or otherwise.

"The Master on this occasion placed emphasis on the following five points as representing the cardinal features of the gospel of the kingdom:

- "1. The pre-eminence of the individual.
- "2. The will as the determining factor in man's experience.
- "3. Spiritual fellowship with God the Father.
- "4. The supreme satisfactions of the loving service of man.
- "5. The transcendancy of the spiritual over the material in human personality.

"This world has never seriously or sincerely or honestly tried out these dynamic ideas and divine ideals of Jesus' doctrine of the kingdom of heaven. But you should not become discouraged by the apparently slow progress of the kingdom idea on Urantia. Remember that the order of progressive evolution is subjected to sudden and unexpected periodical changes in both the material and the spiritual worlds. The bestowal of Jesus as an incarnated Son was just such a strange and unexpected event in the spiritual life of the world. Neither make the fatal mistake, in looking for the age manifestation of the kingdom, of failing to effect its establishment within your own souls."

NOTE: Visitors are most welcome at either of the two winter seminar classes.

AGONDONTIER: An ascender from an isolated world. One "who can believe without seeing, persevere when isolated, and triumph over insuperable difficulties even when alone." The Urantia Book - P. 579:1

DZ/BF

MH/JF

A G O N D O N T E R

April 1966

Contributed and edited by Walter Zigler, Educational Chairman of 1st Urantia Society of Los Angeles, California.

"You must always go forward from where you find yourself now." (2084)

THEOLOGY SEMINAR

Last week end concluded a very enlightening and enjoyable nine weeks on Doctrine I Theology of the Urantia Book. Our sincerest thanks go to Ruth and Bob Burton for making such a difficult subject so interesting and understandable to all of us.

SUMMER SEMINAR

Plans are now being finalized on Alvin Kulieke's astronomy course to be given the first three weeks in July. The course will be for 1/2 credit and will be given two days a week, probably Sunday afternoon and Wednesday evening. Unlike the theology course, this will be concentrated over three weeks and members will be required to attend both sessions in order to obtain the full 18 hours credit.

Accommodations are needed for the Kuliekes, a family of five. If any member has a suggestion or available space, please contact Ward Culbertson.

NEW MEMBERS

We are happy to announce the initiation of two new members and welcome them into the Urantia Society. They are Kenneth Parks and Gloria Sarnecki. The ceremony was conducted by Ruth Burton in the absence of Ward Culbertson, President.

GROUP MEETINGS

Since all separate group meetings were discontinued during the latest Seminar, we are glad to announce the continuation of the regular meetings as follows:

Those in the Santa Monica area may contact Georgia Gecht at GLadstone 4-8961 for information on the time of your meeting.

Those in the Pasadena area may contact Mrs. Helen Steen at SYcamore 3-8971 for information on the time of your meeting.

SCIENCE DEPARTMENT---ASTRONOMY

There have been several articles written lately on the recently discovered quasars (quasars stellar radio sources), large bodies of matter too massive to be stars, too dense and compact to be galaxies. According to our astronomers they appear to be 6 to 10 billion light years away. Not only are the quasars the most distant objects in the observable universe, but they are generating energy that represents more than 100 billion times the heat and light energies of the sun. This means they are 100 times more brilliant than light from an ordinary galaxy despite all of its 100 billion glowing stars.

How does science explain them? It doesn't. Time magazine says, "No process known on earth seems to account for this output of energy, and physicists and chemists have been forced to consider whether new physical laws must be formulated to account for them."

What does the Urantia book say about them? Pg. 354, paragraph 2: "There actually is a vast and new system of universes gradually organizing in the domains of outer space. New orders of physical creations, enormous and gigantic circles of swarming universes upon universes far out beyond. The present bounds of the peopled and organized creations are actually visible through your telescopes. At present these outer creations are wholly physical, they are apparently uninhabited and seem to be devoid of creature administration." It further states, "We are already able to identify the clustering of at least seventy thousand aggregations of matter, each of which is greater than any one of the present super-universes."

Since the diameter of our Grand Universe is approximately 500 thousand light years, it would stand to reason that if these quasars are 6 to 10 billion light years away as our astronomers conjecture, they will lie well beyond the fourth outer space level. However, the Urantia book states that there are no physical or material bodies in the third or fourth outer space level as yet. Only a directional flow of energies.

It further states on pg. 130-1, "A zone of unbelievable energy action is now taking place one-half million light years beyond the periphery of the Grand Universe which increases in volume and intensity for over twenty-five million light years. These tremendous wheels of energizing forces are situated in the first outer space level. Still

greater activities are taking place more than fifty million light years beyond the first outer space level."

This would indicate that the quasars our astronomers reason to be 6 to 10 billion light years away could only be 100 million light years away.

Why the difference?

Astronomers have reasoned that the distance of a galaxy is determined by its "Red Shift." That is, the further away a galaxy is, the more its spectral lines shift toward the red end of the spectrum and the faster it must be receding from the Milky Way.

The Urantia Book, pg. 134-6, says, "Although your spectroscopic estimations of astronomic velocities are fairly reliable when applied to the starry realms belonging to your super-universe and its associate superuniverses, such reckonings with reference to the realms of outer space are wholly unreliable. Spectral lines are displaced toward the red by a receding star. Many influences make it appear that the recessional velocity of the external universes increases at the rate of more than one hundred miles a second for every million light years' increase in distance. By this method of reckoning, subsequent to the perfection of more powerful telescopes, it will appear that these far-distant systems are in flight from this point of the universe at the unbelievable rate of more than thirty thousand miles a second. But this apparent speed of recession is not real; it results from numerous factors of error embracing angles of observation and other time-space distortions.

Conclusion: It is the opinion of this writer that these quasars, eminent as they are, are the first material creations in the master universe the Urantia Book describes. Their size are only out of proportion in comparison to our present Grand Universe and its material bodies, but if viewed in their proper perspective these immense physical bodies occupy no more room in the Master Universe than our sun in relation to its super-universe.