

given responsibility to teach the planning format he knew through his work with the Fraternal Relations Committee of the Brotherhood and his own business. The assembly moved that the Planning Committee would determine their own working structure and that the President of the Society would be a committee member.

The first meeting of the Planning Committee was held March 5, 1984. The members of the committee were Mo Siegal, Jill & Bob Hull, Jack Kane, Archie Anderson, Paula Thompson, JoAnn Brummett, John Hay, Don Guimond and John & Jane Roper. We have had many visitors to our committee meetings and their contributions have always been very appreciated and welcomed.

Our first category to tackle was our Belief statement. Through brainstorming we came up with seven different topics we wanted to address our beliefs regarding: our Society, The URANTIA Book, the Brotherhood and other Societies, Education, Outreach, Growth, and the Family. Each committee member was assigned the task of writing a paragraph on a specific topic to be discussed with the whole group at the next meeting. During subsequent meetings we thoroughly discussed, revised, edited, and

finally came to agreement on the various topics. One of our members, Jack Kane, felt we were creating a creed and much spirited discussion ensued as we together explored our feelings as regarded his concern. The conclusion we came to was that the belief statement was not set in concrete and that it would certainly evolve.

The Belief statement was sent to each Society member for their thoughts and revisions. We received a few responses and thoughtfully considered them in our statement. The Belief statement and the work-in-progress of the Planning Committee was given general support by the assembly of the Society at our September meeting, and we were encouraged to continue the process into our Mission, Objectives and Action plans, this is now happening.

The Planning Process is hard work, time consuming, and requires the exhilarating experience of really listening to your brothers and sisters and acquiring a sympathetic appreciation for their point of view. None of us has the game plan for "running a revelation" in our hip pocket and I have found the process of allowing group wisdom to function to have enormous value in my experience. •

Things you can use

Science

In the August 1984 issue of TIME Magazine there was an article that described what scientist had just discovered at the center of the Milky Way galaxy. The findings have set astrophysics on its proverbial ear. From the article I quote: "...the belt of gas rises up at a right angle to the plane of the Milky Way."

You will find on page 652 of The URANTIA Book, which describes how the forces of a nebula are started and as you will read the similiar usage of words is uncanny. I quote: "...the living force organizers simply withdraw at right angles to the plane of the revolutionary disk..."

I definitely feel that this is an example we can use whenever we are trying to turn someone on to The URANTIA Book, who might have a scientific orientation. Most Bible students will tell you that the test of revelation is that there is prophecy contained within it. Well, to me this is a clear case of scientific prophecy. •

Bible

Many people have expressed a problem that they experience whenever they have to deal with someone who is really into the "Atonement Doctrine". This problem is expressed in their comments of "How can I talk to this person, express my feelings on this doctrine and at the same time not offend them."