

*all myers*

*Brackets made by Clyde & additions*

RECEIVED

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<p>Report of Tom Kendall's and Martin Myer's Meeting with Clyde Bedell Laguna Hills, Ca., July 15, 1978 Present also: Vern Grimsley, Duane &amp; Lucille Faw, Florence Bedell</p>
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Notes were taken informally by Lucille Faw, transcribed in Chicago for the group.

The following transcript is Kendall's, added to by Clyde Bedell to include omitted points that seemed important to include. No attempt was made to have verbatim and all-inclusive notes.

Agreed copyright issue is a very important one, and Clyde agrees that the Concordex is a derivative work. *without specific suggestions*

Clyde asked what "we" found objectionable in Concordex. He said he intended to go ahead [publishing] on his own, [finding it impossible and unreasonable to heed headquarters criticisms to date, which had been amorphous and impossible to "get hold of".]

He said he needed to know who would review and criticize or "correct" his thinking and writing. Will it be those who have [most recently written or circulated criticisms? Is hdqtrs to say: "Write it our way, or don't do it?" He said: "I will welcome well considered, rational suggestions, but not criticisms reflecting personal views of several people who do not really know much about the Concordex or its use." *Want rational view*

Martin We have a duty to cooperate with you and we have a duty to the Foundation.

Clyde I cannot submit *an amorphous* as consequence of a general statement that you don't like the (fob) front-of-book matter. [You have suggested] "Write it over and submit it", That I cannot do. I again ask for specifics. What *is* [does hdqtrs find] objectionable?

Duane Two factors involved--one is editorial content as Clyde's statements and one is the entries in the index portions.

Clyde listings Should really confine ourselves to fob writing I think. I am amenable to changes in and have already eliminated, for instance, "beatnik" at Julia's long-ago suggestion. No problem there. Problem is hdqtrs recent-found criticisms of my fob matter.

Tom We have to protect copyright. That includes our right to examine and approve any derivative work now and in the future.

Clyde The Concordex was published with hdqtrs knowledge and approval. My privilege remains. But you have been threatening me to stop my publishing when the book is all my responsibility, and no one can hold you responsible for what I say in it

Martin We are not here to say that you either do this or that, or you don't publish.

Clyde [That is precisely what has been said to me in writing. I have been told I am

*some specific points on which*

"athwart" the copyright, as Tom put it. You must have specifics in mind. I want specifics. Where or how am I athwart the copyright?

Martin If you publish without the Trustee's approval, then you violate the copyright, which cannot be tolerated.

Clyde But I had permission to publish and that permission cannot be revoked without any cause except that you don't like something I have written.

Martin If this issue should come to a trial (or legal action (?)) ...

Clyde (breaking in) I would welcome it. I would welcome it.

Duane Clyde has a vested right and investment in that second edition and has permission to publish and he can reprint exactly as it is as many times as he wants to for years and no one can prevent it.

Clyde McGraw-Hill's legal department has informed me it doesn't have to be exactly the same, as long as it is--basically--the same book. I have studied the recent (1976) Copyright Law revisions, and I've much broader quote rights than I have taken advantage of.

Vern You did request specifics from others in the field besides Carolyn and John Hales. And you received suggestions including quite a few from me, which I thought you handled fairly, accepting some and telling me why you could not accept others. Now, I think to make better progress I believe we need to take 60 seconds to seek the Father's will. All of us want to find a way to publish this work. We want to work out a way for the good of the Movement.

(Silent prayer)

Duane Call on the Conciliators. (Page 275.)

Tom We are trying to foster an atmosphere of non-criticism of other religious groups. In your Foreword are comments which are offensive to some groups. We are not here to try to push aside others to get to truth.

Clyde I can't write an introduction which is inoffensive to all groups--<sup>Mission</sup> if that is what is requested--that is not my ministry. [The URANTIA Book itself is tough, unequivocal, uncompromising in pointing out the differences between its Jesusonian Christianity and others.]

Tom I know your ability to write. You can write a very inspiring dignified article that would inspire everyone and offend no one. Vern does it all the time.

Clyde My task is different. Vern is not trying to represent the whole Book to prospective readers. *instinks*

Duane If I were sitting on the Trustees, if Clyde came to me, I would be wearing two

to approve it. What I really would be saying is, I would not say it in that way, but I will approve it because it does not violate copyright.

What we need is the bottom line. What do you intend to do if the book is submitted for review. Will he be saying that if you do not approve, he will not publish --when what Clyde is saying is that he will publish?

If he submits book and accepts your specific comments for consideration, and after pondering them says, thanks I prefer to keep them as they are, then will you refuse to approve?

Martin Don't know. We can't speak for all the Trustees.

*Martin: What was the agreement the Foundation reneged on?*

Clyde *doing* [Despite our differences] I bear no ill will toward you two men or anyone else at headquarters, tho I disagree heartily with some of your decisions and things you are *objected* [do]. I recognize that you are all working hard and trying to do right. But I have grievances. I published the Concordex 7 years ago, and no one [at 533 criticized] or made negative comments until the summer of 1977. Then, when Meredith and John came out here to discuss the criticisms and get an agreement with me about them so the Brotherhood could sell Cncrdxs to bookstores, we came to agreement and then the Fndtn reneged.

*(changed somewhat)* [To me it is terrible that we staunch Urantians, all of whom should be working in common, must spend time and energy quarreling over what is really a non-issue. I have made some changes, making the Concordex less personal, and we can even increase assurance that the Foundation will never be regarded as responsible for my work.]

*Martin - See Lucille Faw's notes p.2 - last 3 lines*

Martin [We have said the] wrapper must be different. You have [said you will] take <sup>an</sup> action on that.

[Clyde Yes, of my own accord, I agreed to that long ago. But you should remember hdqtrs was extremely afraid I might make a wrapper that looked like the U. Bk's. Altho I never had any desire to do that.]

Martin We believe it is best that the Book not be sensationalized or advertised. Meredith came out to try to work out the differences so could.... There was a contract offered to you by the Brotherhood Corporation in October to let them distribute the Cncrdx to bookstores. You refused.

Clyde I haven't seen it. [ (Martin produced a copy of document from briefcase and gave it to Clyde. Clyde exclaimed.) ]

[ Oh this. I had forgotten this entirely, as soon as I examined it and responded to Meredith. That was not a proposed agreement, but a non-agreement, all one-sided. It was a proposal to give you life and death decision over the Cncrdx. ] No one here would have signed what I received [ and immediately passed up and forgot, had you been me. It required submission, your right to censor and deny me publishing rights (if you could), and if I agreed and put myself in your hands, you could cancel without notice. ]

*See L. Faw's notes p.3*

Cancellation would be of value to you to coerce me, of no value to me. Please recall that my fob matter was not heretofore submitted to hdqtrs precisely for the reason that we wanted it true that hdqtrs had not seen and was not responsible for what I wrote. You only permitted me to use a small group of quotes. That gave you no responsibility for my writing, and it gave you no right to dictate what I might say or how I should say it.

[You simply cannot contend the Cncrdx has hurt or is bad for the Movement.] How many people can you get to say that the ConcordeX is bad for our Movement? [I can show letters, I can get hundreds to testify to its value and its service to the Movement.]

Martin The Letter of Brotherhood Corporation November 3rd provided for you to sell Cncrdxs to Brotherhd Corp at 50% discount, and Brotherhd would distribute thro bookstores and individuals as URANTIA Bk etc.

It also provided you were to submit rewritten fob of Cncrdx and dust-jacket for approval--(and not engage in any mass advertising) and either could terminate at any time.

Clyde [Yes, yes. I remember now. But] what person could agree to <sup>giving</sup> such a stranglehold on the ConcordeX?

Martin I can't see where you were jeopardized, but this was the Brotherhood's proposed agreement and was not signed [by you]

Clyde Let's get to specifics in a friendly manner. I know I have been sounding angry because I have <sup>my heart in it</sup> been emphatic. I <sup>have been very</sup> am deeply concerned. [I have my heart in the ConcordeX. I am not angry but I am deadly serious about all this. I intended the ConcordeX to be of great value to readers and great service to the Movement. I expected every purchaser of the U Bk to know an index was available. Instead it has almost been suppressed by hdqtrs except where individuals have actually sought the ConcordeX.]

Martin We believe that if you go ahead...

Duane I am absolutely in accord with the Foundation's protection of the copyright, but I am opposed to any effort to force everyone to publish like views on the URANTIA Book. I think the question here is that Clyde is being asked to conform to editing by a group.

Clyde An unknown group--perhaps dominated by such unfair critics as I wrote Tom about.

Martin I don't see the question that way. I see that the sensational promotion is contrary to the way we see the Movement.

Clyde I want you to tell me <sup>how!</sup> what is sensational. Whose views determine what is sensational? Again, your criticisms from hdqtrs are generalities. List for me the

Vern The Foundation has the duty to protect the trademarks etc., but the two most visible parts of the Movement are The URANTIA Book and the Cncrdx. So the Cncrdx comes under the Trustees concern because of its high profile in the Movement. Of necessity, the Cncrdx takes things out of context. It does need balance.

Clyde [ There is balance hdqtrs critics ignore. They pick at a small handful of things they attack as negative. But there is an enormous amount of positive constructive inspirational matter in the fob they ignore. And on what they don't like, which has to be rather limited, they want to tell me what to think and write. *you*

Martin We've reached a point where you are saying you are right and we say we are right. I'll write you my specific concerns and reply to any specific questions you have.

Vern This is an evolutionary planet and we can never all expect to agree on things. Things will change perspective over the years and be seen in different light. I don't hear anyone saying that the Concordex is bad or should not be published.

(General agreement expressed--among all present)

Who are the Trustees now? Martin Myers Arthur Born Tom Kendall  
William Hales Edith Cook

Tom You could appeal to everyone who picks up the Concordex. I don't see why you have to knock Christianity.

Clyde I don't believe anyone could appeal to everyone. [ (Conservatives, disillusioned religionists, Adventists, agnostics, Catholics, ?) To attempt to appeal to everyone would be to misrepresent the Book, which is much harsher on Christianity than I am. It would neutralize the presentation and have no real appeal to anyone. ]

Tom Perhaps I exaggerated, but you know what I mean.

Clyde The Concordex is not to appeal to *for nice little Christian* Fundamentalists [for instance,] who would be offended by my comments. [The Concordex wishes to sell the URANTIA Book to all rational reasonable prospects, especially the spiritually hungry. Hdqtrs ascribes much of my position to: "Clyde's an advertising man". True, I am an advertising man. And I must insist for your benefit that everything good on earth has to be SOLD or it languishes. This is bedrock truth. To sell the URANTIA Book honestly, requires writing that differentiates it from other Christian or religious writing. The front of the Cncrdx is written to appeal to those I want to reach-- and will be so written in each new edition as long as I live, always better, I hope. They are the hungry-hearted, searching individuals, truth seekers. *those soul-*

Duane ) Presented illustrations, experiences, using the fob Cncrdx to  
Florence ) introduce the U Bk [successfully to prospective readers. Clyde told  
Clyde ) of an ex-Catholic priest, and of an Italian gentleman, head of a small  
Fndtn in New Jersey (both recent cases), who had read the fob matter  
in the CNCRDX without ever having seen the URANTIA Book. Then they both bought the  
URANTIA Book in its original carton, never having examined it. The priest told his ]

story to Julia. Then subsequently to Clyde, at a FUSLA meeting. Clyde brought out convincingly that neither hdqtrs man was himself intimately knowledgeable about what was in the fob matter. They were largely going on what high-profile critics at hdqtrs claimed or asserted, which Clyde said the facts did not support.

**Vern** Some of the concerns go back to Jesus' point to Simon--don't take anything away from anyone, but add to what they already have.

**Clyde** Very well. But the Urantia Book is here to put something into hearts that are already emptied of spiritual content to some extent--it is not for ardent religionists whose hearts are filled with the wrong gospel. These hungry hearted we cannot win unless we enable them to see this is a NEW and DIFFERENT Gospel.

We must ever bear in mind too J' emphatic comment to James that he did not want his Apostles to think alike. He wanted unity of spirit and belief, not uniformity. (1591C) The Concrdx takes nothing out of the hearts of those to whom it is written. Surely you do not wish to say the Conco'rdex's appeal to the URANTIA Book's rightful prospects should be cut out in order for it to appeal more to religionists who will never read it.

**Vern** The Foundation has been concerned with how many will be lost because offended.

**Clyde** If individuals read the fob Cncrdx and take offense, and turn away from the Uran-tia Book, do you believe if we seduced them into the Book by misrepresenting the U Bk, they would ever become good Urantians?

Let me add to my answer to my "knocking Christianity". One of my headquarters critics said I made an attack on Christianity with the sentence: The URANTIA Book "is a superb Christian document, but it is only meagerly Jesusonian". I wrote that as a parphrase, but when I checked back, I found it was word for word from the U Bk. My critics not only do not know the purposes for which the Concordex was created. Some of them are not very familiar with the U Bk's own "knocking" of Christianity, to use Tom's phrase.

How can a Urantian wanting to honestly present our Great Book, do so if he must respond to such criticisms as that? After all, Pauline Christianity is not the Christianity of Christ. You want the U. Bk's Christianity soft-pedalled?

How many people will be disappointed or misled--after buying the U Book if I take out all negative references to the organized Christian churches? And do not make clear this is a different revelation? How many seekers for truth will I lose?

**Tom** There are people who would love to find us saying something wrong and get us in trouble. We are trying not to offend any groups.

**Clyde** You cannot promote this revelation honestly without risking that.

**Martin** It seems that you feel that your front of book is the way you want it. and Tom has explained some of the things objectionable to the Foundation. We are trying to convince each other and I don't think we are going to change your mind. You think it is your baby and does not necessarily affect the URANTIA Fndtn. in any

even with their divergent views. Obviously changes have been made.

Clyde [ And more will be made in a 3rd edition. But I dot want to be under a forced censorship, being "straightenedout" by some faceless group of probably unqualified critics. ] What I object to is your saying I must say it one way, altering an honest presentation of the Book, ] or I will be punished. I have had harsh threats from Fndtn. But changes I have made have been voluntary. ] *many of my*

I will illustrate. I have changed and removed personal comments that are not essential to the Concordex. I feel satisfied, good, about the changes. ] I believe they are improvements. (pp. 178, 271, 402, and some of comment p. 333) ]

Martin May we say here that we will no longer demand that you submit the Concordex for approval. But may we request that you submit it? I know that you will consider our suggestions, and we will point out that this is your private work and your responsibility. We will recommend to the Board that we write you a letter stating that we request as a favor that you submit manuscript for our comments and the Foundation will send you a formal statement permitting publication of quotations from The URANTIA Book with a statement that the Foundation does not approve the Concordex as a statement of the Foundation's opinions, but solely as opinions of Clyde Bedell.

We will be willing to stress to the Board that they do not want to be in a position of censoring a private work.

Duane Sooner or later the Foundation has to see the work to approve.

Clyde [ Usually, ] when an <sup>typical</sup> author asks permission to use [ a few ] paragraphs from another work, he does not submit his whole work.

Duane This is different--this is a <sup>sub rosa</sup> derivative index for The URANTIA Book. If you don't submit it your recourse will be to sell it yourself. They (hdqtrs) cannot sell it without approval.

[ Tom When do you expect to publish a third edition? Have you written matter for the front of a third edition? ]

*blacco first 2  
ies L. Faw*

Clyde [ It will be at least 1 1/2 or 2 years I believe before a third edition is published. I have written no job matter for it tho I have given it much thot. I do have perhaps 3 to 4000 new entries for it. When I do write it I do not care to submit it. I have no desire to attempt to write something vitally important, to be submitted to be mauled and manhandled and second-guessed and perhaps approved by a Committee unnamed. I do not want my thinking and writing "straightened out" by such hdqtrs critics as I have named to you, along with some of their shockingly unjust and invalid criticisms. ]

Let me summarize to this point.

1. I have [ already ] eliminated some of the things [ I justifiably can, things ] which made some individuals uncomfortable.
2. You have been jumping on Cncrdx without understanding it and its many varied

the Cncrdx is used and valued.]

3. Were I a Trustee, like you, I might not have had time to carefully read all job matter in Cncrdx, tho as Vern indicated, in view of its importance in the Movement, I believe you should have known a great deal about the Cncrdx. But if I was not familiar with it, I would have taken opinions of others as you have certainly done. But that would be a mistake which might lead me to condemn what I knew little about.

4. I believe the ConcordeX has an important and valid place [in presenting the URANTIA Book to a very very large group of people [to whom I have directed my writing, and there is much evidence, with which you are unfamiliar, that it is quite successfully appealing to--and serving--them.]

I assume Martin is saying--You probably sense now what we at headquarters are unhappy with. Will you change as much as you can in conformity with your own conscience? Then write a boxed paragraph at front in approved form, [assuming total responsibility for ConcordeX views?]

Martin That is not all. It is also the legal problem of our having need to see what is going to be used in connection with quotes from The URANTIA Book. I don't think you have anything to fear from the Foundation. [We have made mistakes. It will be different now.] What have you got to lose [by submitting the writing? I'm not saying you have to do it. I am asking that you do. [You can still then, as you say, publish anyway.]

Clyde What do I gain by submitting?

Martin What do you gain by not submitting? [Are you afraid of our reactions?]

Clyde [I retain] my independence [and freedom from censorship. And, yes,] I am afraid. You wouldn't believe what I have received from the Foundation [and headquarters. I have detailed only a very few of the unfair, invalid, irrational, criticisms I had from the two named, hardly qualified, hdqtrs critics.]

I assure you I will never use quotes from the URANTIA Book [illegally.]

*permission* You know how long and ardently I have fought to help you protect the copyright.

Now I am going to read to you 8 uses of the Cncrdx. [If I followed hdqtrs. suggestions, much of the great value of the Cncrdx to readers and to the Movement would be lost.]

(Clyde read the 8 USES OF THE CONCORDEX)

*Foundation has never told URANTIA readers that an index exists at*  
Now I want to clearly point out that I have much greater grievances against the Fndtn than it has with me.

You now know the position the Cncrdx holds in the Movement, and the service it renders to societies, study groups, speech writers, and so on. But due to what amounts to hdqtrs suppression, about 80% of U Bk purchasers never learn an INDEX is available, unless it be by chance. Think of the value to the Movement, in the hands of the relatively few readers who have learned of it! No group of



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Urantians would agree you have fairly treated either the Cncrdx, Urantia Book purchasers or me.

Aside from hdqtrs there seems to be no illusion as to the service the Cncrdx has rendered our Movement. Yet in 7 long years. not one single Trustee or other important hdqtrs official HAS EVER SUGGESTED a meeting or any consultation with me as to how the Cncrdx service to readers might be enlarged, increased, utilized, or improved, for the good of our Movement. If there was hdqtrs disapproval of anything in the Cncrdx, not one Trustee or hdqtrs exec ever said to me orally or in writing: "We could support the Cncrdx more if writing in it was modified somewhat. For the good of the Urantia Movement, let's discuss that." Vern has said next to the U Bk the Concordex has the highest profile in our Movement. Isn't it strange that a hdqtrs filled with people presumably intent on aiding the Movement, has never deigned to have even a 30 minute talk with me about the Cncrdx. Small wonder I am afraid to trust my work to people so long indifferent, and then suddenly so savagely critical in details truth will not support.

This meeting, the result of a hssle, is the first time I have ever had any interested or concerned attention for this valuable and important asset to the Urantia Movement.

Martin Where we are apart is in obligation of Trustees to see a derivative work before it is published, before giving approval.

The Foundation would be in a terrible position if Trustees refused permission to publish this private work simply because we don't like some of it. The Board has more to consider than the few passages that concern them. You do not need to be afraid of what the Trustees will say or do. And only the Trustees will see and read whatever you submit.

Clyde Do you feel that you have any broader, more lenient attitude toward the Cncrdx? Do you think you understand it and its several important uses better?

Martin Yes, but I cannot speak for all the Trustees. However, we have some influence with them. And we are saying that it may be possible to have a disclaimer in the front of the book, on behalf of the Foundation.

Clyde Are you saying then, that I would be submitting my writing for your comments and suggestions, to use or not as best I can, and not for censorship?

*Criticisms*

Martin Yes. We would send our opinions. Not censorship.

Clyde Where does that leave us?

Martin We both do it in good faith. What we must do now is go forward.

*prepare this material for the 20B. and send it*

Clyde In the preparation of new material for the front of a third edition of the Cncrdx, considering the views I know you hold now, I will bear this understanding in mind, and will send what I write to you for your comments [not censorship].

I will also prepare a boxed disclaimer on which we agree, as additional protection for the Foundation, lest it be held responsible for what I write in

backbone, (d) on front of binding, (e) on title page, (f) on title page verso, (g) p.16D, (h) p. 20B, (i) p.33D). No doubt, neither you nor my somewhat careless critics have ever realized all this.]

Tom We want to say again that we recognize the value of the Cncrdx, not only for new readers but for all of us.

Martin  
and  
Clyde

Ways to Modify Agreement suitable to hdqtrs and Clyde  
for Brotherhood to sell Cncrdxs to bookstores.

1. Letter of Agreement should state that the Concordex is a valuable tool [for readers and the Movement,] and the Brotherhood wishes to distribute it to bookstores.

2. The Brotherhood will inform bookstores selling 80% or more of URANTIA Books that an INDEX, the Concordex, is available from the Brotherhood. This letter will in goodfaith creditably present the Concordex with a view to getting it carried by stores selling the U Bk. Additional letters may on occasion be sent untill the fact registers with bookstores, if first approved by Brotherhood and an agreeable sharing of expense can be arrived at.

2 [3.] The Agreement may be cancelled [by either party for cause] If Clyde violates the spirit of the Agreement, or does something [definitively] harmful to the Movement, Agreement may be cancelled by majority vote of Corporation. [If hdqtrs] does anything hurtful to Concrdx's purposes, sale, or use, [or is suppressive of Cncrdx,] Clyde can cancel.

The meeting concluded in a general and obvious spirit of goodwill among all present. after Clyde told the story of a new Urantian, an eminent consultant to department stores all over this continent, and read two letters from him. The letters (copies) are attached. One dated in November 1977, the second in May '78,

The new Urantian, a man Clyde knew and encountered in his work many times many years ago, had not been seen by Clyde for about 10 years. Clyde sent him a "thank you note" for a most generous gesture out of a clear sky, last August. He enclosed in his "thank you note" an 8 1/2 x 11 leaf about the Urantia Book and Concordex. On the margin he simply wrote: "This gives you an idea of how I have been spending my time in recent years." That led to the man's purchase of a U. Bk and a Concordex. The 2 letters speak for themselves.

On the plane

THE UNDERLINES ADDED BY CLYDE BEDELL

Dear Clyde =

You just obliterated my Sunday. Here was a day I had set aside to complete my store-visit reports, get ahead with articles, and write some letters. None of these tasks are done. The BOOKS arrived a few days ago, catching up with me in New York. I made the mistake of opening the package.

Following your suggestions I settled in a comfortable chair and read (and re-read) the first 50 pages of the Concordex, then got into many of the succeeding pages, back and forth, savoring what the URANTA BOOK promises. Absolute intoxication. I haven't had anything so absorbing in a long time. If the Concordex is a taste of URANTA BOOK I'm hooked.

What a gigantic job you've done. How many hours and years of devotion? You must have been inspired by some unseen force to carry on such a superhuman assignment and do it so thoroughly.

I envy you. I envy the fullness of knowledge you must have acquired. I'm grateful you decided to include me into your sphere of thought. I don't know what the Uranta Book will do to me but I am open minded and hopeful. Hopeful that at last I will get answers to my lifelong questions. Hopeful that this will indeed reveal the truth. If this happens to me I will be much in debt to you.

I have one regret—the Uranta Book is not in paper back (10 volumes?)! I'm lining up a special briefcase

# Animals Club

May 21, 78

Dear Clyde -

In advertising circles we resist the use of superlatives but when it comes to expressing my feelings about the Urantia book I find it impossible without literally gushing. I am overwhelmed. I am staggered by the scope, the information, the logic, the humanity. This is the revelation I have been looking for, waiting for. It has renewed my Christian faith, given me new confidence in myself and my role in life (this life) and in the future. Yes, now I know that I will meet my beloved on high.

God bless you Clyde - your thoughtfulness opened this door for me. God bless Concordex. It is such an enormous help in penetrating the complexities of the Urantia volume - It's a daily must and I am grateful -

Sek