

## URANTIA FOUNDATION

## INTRA-OFFICE MEMORANDUM

FROM Mark Kulieke  
TO Trustees and Trustee Emeritus

DATE September 22, 1977  
SUBJECT Wear and Tear Correction Work

The purpose of this memorandum is to encapsulate the background and recent history of the correction work on The URANTIA Book and to report on the present status of this work.

The conversion of plates to autositives for The URANTIA Book occurred after the second printing of the Book and therefore after the original plates had run 20,000 copies. Some parts of the plates were badly worn, other parts less so. These imperfections were transferred to working positives from which new plates are made with each printing. The character of the worn type is such that heavy inking shows the wear far more than light inking. When the third printing was prepared, the inking was generally on the lighter side and the worn areas went largely unnoticed. On the fourth printing, the inking was much heavier and there were many areas of the Book which looked bad. In preparing for the fifth printing, Paul Rydell picked out approximately 60 of the worst pages in the fourth printing and had Donnelley reset parts of these pages and in some instances the entire page. The inking on the fifth printing was somewhere in between that of the third and fourth printings and looked much better than the fourth. However, even at the time of printing, certain parts of text were noticeable due to the worn type. The average reader probably notices very few of the uneven spots in the printing, but a scrutiny of the pages conducted for the purpose of locating these spots easily makes them apparent, even prominent.

After the fifth printing had been completed, Paul and I decided to go through the book very carefully and thoroughly and, in the most critical fashion, to mark anything which seemed to need improvement. To distinguish between inking irregularities and actual wear, we compared the fifth printing with the third printing. If the same irregularity could be discerned in both printings, we marked the area for retypesetting. We both went through the Book page by page several times. This process required over six months of time and when we were finished, we had marked portions of approximately 400 pages and had marked an additional 70 pages to be entirely reset.

Our first contact with Ernie Hunter last winter to have pages reset was unsatisfying. He advised, probably due to lack of understanding, that we should either leave the book as it is or reset the entire book. Not liking either choice, we decided to visit our operator, Phil Smith, at Crawfordsville to see what he could do. We visited Phil this spring and he was very helpful in getting this work started for us. At the same time, we checked the working positives in Crawfordsville to confirm the need for correcting the 500 pages we had marked. After this visit, I prepared the 500 pages according to Phil's specifications for transmittal to Crawfordsville and requested a pricing schedule from Ernie. Upon the approval of the Trustees, this material was forwarded to Donnelley in late June and they were authorized to proceed with this work. Donnelley started preparing galley proofs in late July and completed this work in mid-August. This work was checked in the Foundation office in late August for spacing and accuracy and was marked for correction where necessary.

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Re: Wear and Tear Correction Work

At the same time, Ernie Hunter was working on a pricing schedule and submitted a final schedule in the form of a contract on August 29th. The prices were checked over by Paul and myself and Tom Kendall signed the contract on September 10th.

We came up against an unusual problem in checking the galley proofs. It was noticed that in a few places, the typesetter appeared unable to get as many characters on a line as appeared on the original copy. This meant that words or portions of words were appearing on different lines from the original and in some paragraphs this necessitated an additional line of type. Since we want the reset copy to appear exactly as the original, we asked for clarification from Crawfordsville. It turns out that in the 40 years or so since The URANTIA Book was originally typeset, the process of converting type to paper molds and vinylite molds, to plates, and later to auto-positives has caused the text to shrink very slightly. The line of text which was originally 30 picas long is now about 29.7 picas--about one-sixteenth of an inch shorter. Since the new type is the original size, not as many characters can be placed on a line which is already very tightly spaced. This fact was something totally new to both Paul and Phil.

To solve the problem, Donnelley will set the type exactly as the original, film it, and slightly reduce it to fit on a 29.7 pica line. I don't know how much extra cost this will be to us as yet.

Another problem that we noticed is that certain pages have shrunk less than others. Therefore the new type margins are sometimes in variance, generally shorter, than original copy. Although it is very slight--perhaps one or two hundredths of an inch--it may prove to be noticeable when a reset paragraph is patched onto a page with original text. I have asked Donnelley what they can do about this problem and should receive an answer shortly. Meanwhile, we are holding all galley proofs until a satisfactory resolution of this problem is reached.

Not including the additional costs these problems might involve, I have computed the total cost of this work from Ernie's pricing schedule as being \$9858.58. Since the cost had to be computed page by page, and since I was uncertain how to charge some pages, the final figure may be a few hundred dollars higher or lower than my estimate.

Once the margin problems are solved, we will return the galley proofs to Crawfordsville and will later have an opportunity to check final page proofs. Originally this was scheduled for October but the date will likely be set forward a month or two.

MWK:kfm