

Fair Oaks Presbyterian Church, Fair Oaks and Thomas

June 12, 1948

At the end of April, the clerk of Blue River Monthly Meeting informed the clerk of Blue River Quarterly Meeting that the weight of opinion at Salem, Indiana was against their entertaining the Spring Quarterly Meeting. They had done so from time out of mind. The abrupt notice deflected the thought of the clerk of the Quarterly Meeting to Oak Park Friends who, it was known, had developed an interest in initiating themselves as hosts of the Quarterly Meeting. Next mail the suggestion went to them. Happily it met an instant response, and favorable, and by an efficient piece of human engineering, we find ourselves here in meeting capacity in Oak Park, Illinois June 12, 1948.

The Quarterly Meeting now assembled de facto approves what has been done to bring the meeting to Oak Park, and directs that the clerks, committees, and others shall proceed uninterruptedly and as if we had gathered in Highland Creek Meetinghouse, Washington Co., Indiana, as a previous minute directed. This minute was approved.

Present as representatives from Oak Park were — Maurice Crew, Anna Alexa, and Martha Chilton; from Madison, Eugene Ackerman; St. Louis, Edward Wood, Helen Johnson, and Philippi Schneider; from Clear Creek, Laura Smith, Lucretia Franklin, Edna Wolf, and John David Wilson; and from 57th Street Meeting, Chicago, Erna Lowenberg, Howard Marshall, Sylvester and May Jones, Geo. Watson, Wolfgang and Gertrud Liepe, Garfield, Jeannette, and Phyllis Cox.

Welcomed were six friends from the Evanston meeting; Wilma Lux from the Baltimore Meeting; and Hiram H. Hilty, from Cuba.

The state of society was reviewed with the thought that religion can be understood by seeing its functional place in the process of living. To be examined, it must be working. It must have exhibits. And it must be supplied with techniques suitable for its expression in accordance with new times.

Reports were listened to from Oak Park, Kansas City, 57th Street, St. Louis, Madison, and Clear Creek. Also, we were favored by a statement from the Evanston Meeting. Sylvester Jones commented on a Chicago Loop weekly service, and Hiram Hilty spoke of the activities of Friends in Cuba.

Assurances of an intimate and loving spirit toward us was beautifully voiced by a member of the Evanston Meeting.

Minutes of the Winter Quarter were read and approved.

The Treasurer's report was read. It shows a balance of \$267.63.

To audit the books and to nominate a treasurer Edward Wood, Carolyn Wills and Harold Flitcraft were appointed. Their report came back: books correct and Robert MacGonigle for treasurer. Thus again was accepted the urgent request of Clement B. Flitcraft for release and the naming of a successor. And in spite of the intention of the meeting Clement had not been actually

superceded. Faithfully he continued to perform his duties, the years of service piling up to 27. Carefully and clearly itemized were his reports.

The report on American Friends Service included statements on Institutes by Geo Watson, on social and industrial projects by Howard Marshall, and finances by Garfield Cox. A consolidated budget has been proposed. The financial condition of the Midwest branch has improved. Clear Creek reports the sending of 250 pounds of clothing.

Richard Eastman commented on values of life in city and rural areas. In metropolitan centers there are people who feel lost and unwanted — a potent factor in moral degeneracy. He mentioned Camp Illindo as an item in youth training the coming summer. Lombard is to be added to the several vacation Bible schools.

On peace and freedom May Jones commented Robt. MacGonigle, George Watson and Carolyn Wills were appointed to wire objections to draft acts, and then Clarence Pickett to reach Harold Evans of Arch Street, appointed to conciliate Jews and Arabs.

George Watson, Eugene Ackerman, and Richard Eastman on request presented a letter addressed to President Truman requesting complete amnesty for persons still held under the selective service act of 1940. Releases under his order of 1947 were far too few. The letter was signed by the Clerk and mailed to the White House and a copy mailed to A.J. Muste, Chairman of the Committee for Amnesty for all objectors to war and conscription.

Phyllis Cox, Joyce Flitcraft and the Mamby couple told of their summer service plans in Europe

The General Meeting joint chairman, Weldon Reynolds, made a detailed report of plans made for the Evanston meeting Oct. 23, 1948. There will be worship, group meetings and addresses by Benson and Purdy.

Sylvester Jones is custodian of funds individually offered to meet the \$200 expected expense for the General Meeting.

To serve as Clerks Albert Mills and Agnes Hole were nominated and confirmed.

As representatives to Yearly Meeting the following were named: Lucretia Franklin, Alice Flitcraft, Arthur Curlee, Bulah Nelson, Agnes Hole, John David Wilson, Fred Baynes

Harold Flitcraft reported the recommendation that the Quarterly Meeting be held Aug. 27, in Madison, Wisconsin and Nov. 13, in St. Louis, Mo. The meeting approved. Thus this year our meeting goes to three new places and in three different states.

Grateful for the courtesy of the Presbyterian parish and its minister and janitor, as well as to the Oak Park meeting for supper and the perfect anticipation of the needs of the quarterly meeting, we concluded following moments of silence.

Albert T Mills Clerk
Robt MacGonagle Asst.

The evening session was addressed by Professor Welty of Beloit, subject — experiences with A.F.S. in Germany. Pictures were shown.