

Blue River Quarterly Meeting, held Second month, seventh, 1948, at 57th Street Meeting, Chicago, in joint session with Chicago Quarterly Meeting.

The meeting was opened by Albert T. Mills, Clerk, with the following representatives present: Agnes Hole, Miriam Brush, and Ivan Bean, Jr., of the Madison Monthly Meeting; Carolyn Wills and Martha Chilton of Oak Park Monthly Meeting; Katharine and Turner Mills of the Clear Creek Monthly Meeting; Irl Balderstone, George Vacek, Lucy Carner, Fred Eastman, Harold Flitcraft and Alice Flitcraft of the 57th Street Monthly Meeting.

The Clerk read the minutes of the last Quarterly Meeting held near McNabb, Illinois, eleventh month 8, 1947. It was requested that the names of Willard Farr and Anne Willis be inserted as representatives from the Evanston Meeting.

Thirty dollars from the trustee fund were distributed equally to Clear Creek, St. Louis, and Madison Monthly Meetings for their respective A.F.S.C. relief projects. Over \$700 remain in the trustee fund.

Garfield Cox reported for the A.F.S.C. He said that the primary problem is securing well qualified personnel, combining ability to work under difficulties and expressing essence of the Quaker way. He urged us to try to fit ourselves for service work. The Committee is sponsoring an industrial relations seminar to foster better understanding between labor and management. The series consists of five sessions, one each month, featuring one outstanding speaker. They are stimulating and encourage discussion. They have increased the degree of respect for the integrity of others. Howard Marshall added that the participants in these sessions spoke very frankly of their problems.

Ruth Dross reported that she is to leave soon for Vienna to serve in an A.F.S.C. neighborhood center. She is searching for somebody to take her place as director of the clothing center.

Richard Eastman reported on Young Friends' activities of the General Conference. A conference was to be held at Quaker Hill, second month 20th, to 22nd, to discuss the Meeting for Worship in relation to world peace. Hans Buchinger, James Mullin, Warren Stabler, Philip and Virginia Towle were to serve as leaders. A Peace Conference will be held at Earlham College eighth month 2nd to 7th, including eight yearly meetings. Plans are being made to give short courses at Quaker Hill on Friends' beliefs for the benefit of pastors and Friends in general.

Seven Friends from the Chicago meeting attended the A.F.S.C. meeting in Philadelphia in January.

Minute 31 of Illinois Yearly Meeting authorized the Executive committee to plan the rotation of quarterly meetings, with Harold Flitcraft as chairman. Each monthly meeting was requested to report its facilities for entertaining quarterly and yearly meetings. The following reports were made:

Clear Creek Meeting suggested that Yearly Meeting be held at a camp, but they would welcome Yearly Meeting there if necessary.

Peoria Meeting would consider Yearly Meeting. It could be held at the Y.W.C.A. They asked if it would be possible to shorten the sessions so that they would be held from Sunday to

Tuesday, rather than from Thursday to Sunday. They suggested that the United Nations and UNESCO be studied.

St. Louis Meeting could offer very little hospitality. Ten to fifteen places would be available. They suggested that it might be held at Camp Ill-Ind-O, and that small groups of Friends might visit within the Yearly Meeting to build fellowship.

Oak Park Meeting suggested the resumption of having the Yearly Meeting in September, rather than in August.

These recommendations will be held over until next Yearly Meeting, to be held at McNabb as usual. Richard Eastman recommended that Oak Park and Madison Meetings take Quarterly Meetings to relieve Clear Creek Meeting. The Madison Meeting will have a report ready for the Quarterly Meeting in June.

The following committee will name the Clerks at the June Quarterly Meeting in Salem: Robert MacGonagle, Sylvester Jones, and Elizabeth Smith.

Evanston Monthly Meeting presented its concern that the separation be closed between Five Years Meeting and General Conference Friends. Evanston Friends cannot undertake dual membership at this time, but urge that Chicago and Blue River Quarterly Meetings join for one day of fellowship at Evanston in tenth month, 1948. A mimeographed statement was issued, reading in part: "The Illinois General Meeting of Friends, a Venture in United Fellowship, to be held on a designated 7th day in 10th month, 1948, at Evanston Friends' Meeting House, Evanston, Illinois, and on a designated 7th day in 10th month, 1949, at the Friends' Meeting House near McNabb, Illinois, under the care of the Chicago Quarterly Meeting of Friends and the Blue River Quarterly Meeting of Friends. Purpose: A regional meeting, free from organizational business, where all Friends may gather for worship, discussion, and the mingling together in brotherly love — in the name of the Lord and for His cause on the earth."

It was suggested that a joint committee be appointed to consider the plan. The proposal was warmly accepted. Sylvester Jones felt that all Illinois Friends should be invited. This was confirmed by Weldon Reynolds. Lucretia Franklin proposed that such a fellowship day might be held immediately following Yearly Meeting at McNabb. Eva Lowenburg praised the efforts of the Service Committee in bringing unity among Friends.

Wilfred Reynolds suggested that a nominating committee be appointed to make recommendations to the quarterly meetings, before the final committee is formed, consisting of an equal number of Friends from each Yearly Meeting. The following were appointed to serve on the nominating committee: Nora Reynolds, Ivan Bean, Jr., Richard Eastman, Dr. Andrews, Dora Hollingsworth, Turner Mills, and Russell Rees. They made their report prior to the evening session, as follows: The committee appointed to plan for the General Meeting of Illinois Friends, under the care of the two quarterly meetings, the first meeting to be held in 10th month, 1948, is as follows: Weldon Reynolds, Chairman, Dora Hollingsworth, Harold Flitcraft, Agnes Hole, Charles Whitney, Martha Chilton, Verna Wood, Sylvester Jones, Anne Willis and Lloyd Roth.

Business pertaining to both quarterly meetings was as follows:

Truman Kirkpatrick reported on the peace education program of the A.F.S.C.. Foreign students are being recruited for seven-week seminars preparing them to return to their native countries better equipped to participate in their governments. Peace caravans will be working in various communities again this summer. Martin Hall will speak in the Chicago area third month 10th to 16th, and Dr. Amiya Chakravarty, of India, will be in the area fourth month 14th to 20th. There will be two week-end Institutes of International Relations in Madison, Wisconsin, and Rockford, Illinois. A ten-day Institute will be held at North Central College, at Naperville. Truman Kirkpatrick emphasized the importance of spiritual values of these Institutes.

George Bent of the finance committee of the A.F.S.C. emphasized the need of examining ourselves in regard to the peace testimony, which was the basis for the awarding of the Nobel Peace Prize to Friends. Our generation needs to prepare the way for our children, rather than expect them to accept the Quaker testimony without our support.

Homer Coppock spoke of the foreign Meetings and Friends he visited during his recent travels in Europe.

Blue River Quarterly adjourned to meet in sixth month at Salem.

Albert T. Mills, Clerk

Agnes Hole, Acting Recording Clerk