

BLUE RIVER QUARTERLY MEETING
NOVEMBER 11, 1950 – ST. LOUIS, MO., Y.M.C.A.

The meetings were represented by the following:

Peoria: Charles and Eleanor Harker

Clear Creek: Albert and Martha Mills { Rept. shows following appt'd: Lucretia Franklin, Arthur and Anna Mary
Wilson, Georgianna Glover, Laura Whitney. Alternates: John and
Dorothy Wilson (all absent)

57th St. Howard and Eula Marshall
Harold and Alice Flitcraft

Oak Park: Luella Flitcraft

St. Louis: Orland and Esther Kolling, Wolfgang Thron, Edwin and Gertrude Oldendorph,
Josephine Lockwood, Dorothy and Edgar Anderson, Helen Johnson, Theodore,
Gertrude, Verna and Galen Wood, Mary Curlee, Cecil and Pauline Hinshaw,
Althea Grossman

The Madison and Milwaukee Meetings were unable to send representatives.

We were very glad to welcome Guy Solt of Philadelphia, and Francis Wright of Penn Valley Meeting, which is now affiliated with the Friends Fellowship Council.

After a half hour of silent worship, the business meeting was opened by the Clerk, Albert Mills.

REPORTS OF MONTHLY MEETINGS

The report of the Madison Meeting, prepared by Agnes Hole, was read. They are doing very well with their First Day School, and now have eighteen children attending. The Clerk commented on the passing of Friend Hanson, who had done the binding of the books of minutes of Illinois Yearly Meeting. The Madison Meeting had also sent copies of telegrams they had sent regarding the resolution they had passed on conscientious objectors. They have been much concerned with this subject.

Eura Marshall read the report of 57th St. Meeting, which had been prepared by Erna Lowenburg, telling of the concerns and spiritual seeking of the group.

The report on Oak Park Meeting was read by Luella Flitcraft.

Since the Milwaukee Meeting had just become affiliated, the Clerk read the report addressed to the Quarterly Meeting in August, giving a history of the growth of the Meeting. He also read the current report, which had been prepared by William Young, Jr.

The report of the St. Louis Meeting was written and read by Gertrude Wood.

Eleanor Harker reported informally for the Peoria Meeting.

Martha Mills read the report of the Clear Creek Meeting.

Francis Wright brought greetings from the Penn Valley Meeting and told of their activities.

The minutes of the Quarterly Meeting held at Madison in August were read and approved.

OTHER BUSINESS

The clerk read three paragraphs from a circular letter sent out by George Bent, calling for the way of love in dealing with the present hatreds and tensions.

Albert Mills read a letter he had received from a professor of mathematics in Upsala, Sweden, who had been impressed by the pamphlet "To the Scientifically Minded" of which Albert Mills is a co-author. He wishes to become a member of the Society, and has asked for more literature.

Harold Flitcraft was called upon to report on the matter of Senator Paul Douglas, whose stand on the manufacture of the H-bomb had caused concern. The matter was referred to his home meeting, and the 57th St. Meeting called a special meeting of Ministry and Counsel on September 24, 1950 to consider the letter Paul Douglas had written to Albert Mills, explaining his stand. Points of particular concern to the committee were his statement to the effect that when someone takes the oath of office he pledges to protect and defend the nation, and regardless of whatsoever may be the decision of individuals who have responsibility only to themselves, those who must think of the nation as a whole cannot leave the nation defenseless; also his statement that Russia, and not we, are the principle ones who need repentance.

The matter of his position on military force has been discussed with him many times by individuals and committees. We respect his position and he has indicated his desire to respect ours both as a private citizen and in public life. The Committee concluded that so long as all of us fall so short of Friends' principles we cannot criticize someone in public life whose position makes him more vulnerable. We cannot believe it is out place to take action concerning those whose earnest searching and sincerity none of us question. It was suggested that individuals take such action as they see fit with regard to his letter.

The Clerk brought up the matter of the disposition of interest on the fund of \$685.24, and it was again the sense of the meeting that it be given to the American Friends Service Committee (George Bent). Edgar Anderson suggested that the existence of this fund be called to the attention of the monthly meetings, to be considered in their work with Displaced Persons. He expressed concern that Friends were not more interested in D.P.'s. The Clerk said this could be brought to the attention of the meetings. He then suggested that the membership of the Committee of Trustees for the fund be changed, since three monthly meetings have become active and one has become inactive since it was set up. Martha Mills suggested that each monthly meeting have a member on the Committee. Edgar Anderson was named to represent the

St. Louis meeting, and he will replace Fred Bainer. Verna Wood pointed out that the A.F.S.C. was doing a good deal for D.P.'s, and that this money could be used for that work.

The Clerk told that the various monthly meetings had been asked for increased funds to help members attend the London Conference. The amounts each meeting had been asked for was read. Luella Flitcraft said that Clear Creek meeting had brought up the question of counting inactive members. The Clerk thought that perhaps the time was at hand when some change in our quotas could be made.

The Clerk read a letter from Lewis A. Taylor, Chairman of the General Meeting which was held in October, reporting on the meeting and asking whether these joint meetings should be continued. Edgar Anderson said that St. Louis Monthly Meeting had no need for getting together with different branches of Friends, as these are represented in the local meeting. The Clerk expressed the feeling that if some other meeting than the three who have already had the general meetings in the past did not extend an invitation, another such meeting would not be held. Harold Flitcraft asked the Clerk if at the Vermillion Grove Quarterly Meeting there was any indication of a desire to hold such a meeting. The Clerk replied that nothing had been said.

A letter was read from Nancy Young of the Milwaukee Meeting, extending an invitation to come to Milwaukee on May 5, 1951 for a joint quarterly meeting. This was accepted, and will take the place of the joint meeting usually held in February. Howard Marshall was appointed to plan for the February Quarterly Meeting, which will have separate business sessions, and only one general meeting.

The business meeting adjourned at 4:30.

There followed a panel discussion on our attitude toward the use of a "police force" by a world government. The panel consisted of Wolfgang Thron, chairman, Edgar Anderson, Orland Kolling, Charles Harker, and Howard Marshall. Many interesting points were brought out by the panel members in their statements, and the later discussion by the meeting in general showed that there has been much searching thought devoted to this question.

A buffet style supper had been prepared by the hosts, and provided a fine opportunity for visiting.

In the evening we had the pleasure of hearing Guy Solt tell of the activities of the American Friends Service Committee.

Albert Mills, Clk
Mary Curlee
Minute Clerk Pro Tem