

MINUTES OF BLUE RIVER QUARTERLY MEETING  
Chicago, Illinois, January 26, 1952

Blue River Quarterly Meeting met in Chicago, January 26, 1952.

Mary Cadbury, assistant recording clerk of 57<sup>th</sup> Street Meeting, was asked to serve as recording clerk for the day.

The clerk read the lists of representatives to Quarterly Meeting presented by 57<sup>th</sup> Street Meeting, St. Louis Monthly Meeting, and Clear Creek Monthly Meeting. The following representatives were present:

From 57<sup>th</sup> Street Monthly Meeting:

Dorothy Trautman

Mary Cadbury

From St. Louis Monthly Meeting:

Wolfgang Thron

Orland Kolling

From Clear Creek Meeting:

Anna Mary Wilson

Laura Mae Wilson

Elsa Whalley from 57<sup>th</sup> Street and Arthur Wilson, Helen Jean Nelson, and Shirly Glover from Clear Creek were not present.

A group of thirteen Friends from the Urbana-Champaign Friends Meeting visited Quarterly Meeting. These Friends were named and welcomed. In the group were Grace Fogg, Maryjane Iden, Bruce Meserve, Robert and Nancy Brewster, Marion Freeman, Edna Benesch, John and Frances Beer, Rachel Weller, Elbert and Alice Russell.

State of Society reports were read from Oak Park Monthly Meeting, 57<sup>th</sup> Street Monthly Meeting, Milwaukee Monthly Meeting, St. Louis Monthly Meeting, and Madison Monthly Meeting. A member of Peoria Monthly Meeting told informally of that Meeting's activities and spiritual condition.

The minutes of the last Quarterly Meeting held in St. Louis in November 1951 were read.

Russell Rees of the Executive Committee of Chicago Quarterly Meeting reported that there was some question as to the practicality of the schedule of Quarterly Meeting times and places which was drawn up tentatively by Committees from both Quarters. He suggested further work be done on the schedule in the light of new suggestions. Harold Flitcraft was appointed to continue his work with representatives from Chicago Quarterly Meeting on the joint schedule.

With the invitation of Friends in Peoria, Blue River Quarterly Meeting appointed its summer meeting for August 2<sup>nd</sup> in Peoria.

A letter from the Friends General Conference asking Friends to oppose the appointment of an ambassador to the Vatican was read. After discussion the Meeting recommended that Monthly Meetings and individual Friends, by writing, visiting, and petitioning our officials, make known our beliefs on this matter.

The clerk mentioned several letters he had received. No action by the Meeting was required.

John Willard of the Chicago Regional Office of the American Friends Service Committee told of the new youth projects and of the peace education activities of that Office. He also mentioned the need for Friends' Meetings to help the Service Committee workers with the wisdom and spiritual power which is necessary for the right policy and work of the Committee. Friends remarked on the value of the peace education program under Robert Picus. The Coronet film series aimed at preparing high school students for military service was discussed. Many Friends felt that its effect at militarizing our country and making peaceful means for solution of problems outdated would be disastrous. The Meeting strongly recommended that Monthly Meetings work in their communities so that these films will not be used in the schools or by other groups. The recording clerk is directed to confer with John Willard on a statement about these films and about action on them, and to send such a statement to all Monthly Meetings in the Quarter.

Jerome Tannenbaum of the Social Order Committee of the 57<sup>th</sup> Street Monthly Meeting read a statement by that Committee on the implications of the McCarran Act. It stated that concentration camps are now in readiness for a period of "emergency" when all "subversives" could be rounded up and imprisoned without trial, if reasonable doubt as to their intent could be shown. The recording clerk is directed to send this statement to each Monthly Meeting.

The Urbana-Champaign Friends Meeting has indicated its interest in possible affiliation with Blue River Quarterly Meeting and Illinois Yearly Meeting. The Friends there would welcome visitors from the Quarterly Meeting. Several from this Meeting have already visited and conferred with them. The clerk is directed to write to the Urbana-Champaign Friends Meeting stating the Quarterly Meeting's encouragement in their consideration of Quarterly Meeting affiliation. We will be happy to receive them if they decide that is best.

To serve as a Nominating Committee to nominate clerks for the Quarterly Meeting, Erna Lowenberg, Morris Crew, and Anna Mary Wilson were appointed. They are to report in April.

At the direction of the Chicago Monthly Meeting Russell Rees reported that the Meeting has appointed a committee to consider the future of the two Quarterly Meetings in co-operative work. It was proposed that this committee work with a similar committee from this Meeting. The Meeting was glad to join in this concern. To join Harold Flitcraft on our Committee to consider the future of the two Quarters, the Meeting appointed Morris Crew, Lucratia Franklin, Charles Harker, and Edward Wood.

The Meeting was adjourned to meet in Evanston on April 26<sup>th</sup>.

Albert T. Mills, Clerk  
Mary C. Cadbury, Recording Clerk for the day